TAMIL Information

Telling Cho Ramasamy the bald truth

Anuradhapura: An assault on the Sinhala Psyche!

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In the Name of Allah;
The Most Compassionate and Merciful!

PRESS RELEASE

SRI LANKAN MINISTER M.H.MOHAMED – A PROVEN TRAITOR TO WORLD MUSLIMS!

Mr.M.H.Mohamed, Minister of Transport of Sri Lanka, who is currently on a European Tour is attempting to seek International Islamic Support for the MOSSAD's (Israeli's Secret Service Dirty Work in Sri Lanka!

We, the Islamic Revolutionary Movement of U.K. hereby bring to light some facts about the Mossad's Role in the now troubled Sri Lanka and the treacherous role played by Mr.M.H.Mohamed!

FACT 1:

Mr.M.H.Mohamed had been seen on several occasions to have visited the Special Interests Section Office of the U.S.Embassy in Kollupitiya,Colombo! The Special Interests Section Office in the U.S.Embassy is where the Israeli Secret Service Station H.Q.of Sri Lanka is situated!

FACT 2:

We have concrete evidence of a "Two Hour Secret Talks" held between Minister M.H.Mohamed and Mr.Avraham Yoffe, a top MOSSAD Special Agent,on Monday 21st January 1985, between 21.15hrs and 23.32hrs at the Hotel Lanka Oberoi, Colombo!

FACT 3:

The Tamil Speaking People of Sri Lanka comprising the Muslim,Christian and Hindu faiths had always been a secular and progressive society living a very peaceful life.Whereas, the Sri Lankan Governments have had on several occasions desecrated our Mosques and killed hundreds of innocent Muslims from time to time, and had set up the Singhalese Mobs on defenceless Muslims! The Sri Lankan Government had been usurping lands belonging to Muslim peasants and settling Sinhalese people and building Buddhist Temples! Now this reactionary regime had fallen straight into the arms of the "MOSSAD" by setting up the Tamil Muslims against the rest of the Tamils!

FACT 4:

It is now a well-known fact that the MOSSAD is implementing the "Divide,Rule & Destroy the Islamic People" strategy wherever they could be reached! The Sri Lankan Muslims are now their target!

It should be reiterated that the Islamic people of Sri Lanka have been a very prosperous,happy and peace-loving community in Sri Lanka. With the arrival of the MOSSAD and the use of their dirty strategies, the Muslims there have become a pawn in the current Sri Lankan crisis! Irreparable damage would be done to the Sri Lankan Muslims unless Traitors like M.H.Mohamed forthwith stop doing the dirty work for the Israeli MOSSAD!

Released to coincide with the Press Conference given by Mr.M.H.Mohamed dated 30th April 1985 at 11.00am, at the ROYAL LANCASTER HOTEL, Lancaster Terrace, London W2.

Released by the ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT OF U.K.
– A Movement for Islamic Unity and Resurgence.

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Editor: S. Sivanayagam

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Anuradhapura: An assault on the Sinhala Psyche!

It needs a complete grasp of 2,000 years of history to realise the full magnitude of what happened on that fateful morning of May 14 in the ancient Sinhala Buddhist capital city of Anuradhapura.

The first Colombo report based on government information said: As many as 150 Sinhalese, including five Buddhist nuns, were massacred by Tamil militants... The attack is believed to be in retaliation for the alleged killing of over 75 Tamils by the army near Valvettiturai last week. According to a government communique, a group of Tamil militants disguised as military personnel, reached Anuradhapura in a bus and opened fire at the bus stand, killing and injuring many people. They then proceeded to the Old town, near the Sri Maha Bodhi, the sacred Bo tree and fired at the public. After the "wanton" killings of innocent people at Anuradhapura, the militants proceeded to Puttalam. En route, they opened fire at Nochchiyagama Police Station, injuring a Police constable and went to the Wilpattu Games Sanctuary, where also some visitors were injured. Doctors, nurses and medicine had been flown from here (Colombo), the communique said, adding that the Sacred Bo tree, the oldest tree in the world, brought to the Island by Emperor Asoka's daughter Sanghamitta, was not affected. A senior official confirming the massacre said "the ferocity of the attack was unparalleled in the history of terrorism in Sri Lanka..."

One does not know whether it was mere presumption or whether government had any evidence, but the view was immediately accepted — by the Sinhalese, by the Tamils themselves, and by the world at large, that Tamil militants were responsible for the massacre. The very fact that no one had difficulty in accepting this conclusion (the government including, despite loss of face) revealed in instinctive acceptance of a historical process. It also raised other points. Tamil guerrillas operating in Tamil country, surrounded by a supportive Tamil population is one thing; to be able to strike into the heart of Sinhala country, in a hostile environment and get away with it, with both entry into the area as well as the exits made hazardous by the presence of army camps and police stations with overwhelmingly superior numbers and weaponry, to take that colossal risk and succeed in it, should surely call for easy familiarity with the terrain, a very high level of motivation, brazen self-confidence, the ability to map out logistics, and if not all these, at least some spirit of dare-devilry and the determination to succeed? While the guessing game went on in Colombo, Jaffna, Madras, New Delhi, London, New York, Bonn, Paris, Sydney, Melbourne... and many other parts of the world where expatriate Tamils gather as to which militant group did it, came the disclaimers.

The PLOT rushed with a condemnation of the massacre, but no one had included that group in the guessing game anyway. The LTTE, TELO, EROS and EPRLF in a joint statement also deplored the act as "senseless violence". Speculation hovered for a while over another group, the Tamil Eelam Army (TEA) but that group also denied vehemently any involvement. Then who did it ? Did some section of the armed forces do it — after all the attackers were in army uniform ? Was it a signal to create anarchy to enable some unknown forces to stage a coup ? Some spoke in whispers in Colombo that it was a Mossad-engineered operation, and if so what was the motive? No, none of these theories somehow seemed satisfying.

But let us note this: whoever did it, they opened the way for Sri Lanka's rapid descent into degeneracy and national disintegration. It was not just a question of killing civilians (Tamil civilians are being butchered ▶

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ever since 1958 !) or killing 150 of them (more than 1500 Tamil civilians have been killed since July 1983 alone !); it was an assault on the Sinhala psyche! Not all the king's horses and all the king's men, not all the Mossads and Maggies, can now put President Jayawardene's Sri Lanka together again. The Anuradhapura massacre was not just a massacre, because Anuradhapura was not just a city. To the Sinhala Buddhist mind, Anuradhapura is an evocative 2,000 year old memory; the city from where all myths, both pleasant and unpleasant take birth; the fountain-source of Sinhala Buddhist civilisation; the symbol of all glory; in short, the beginning of THEIR world.

But what is of more emotional significance is that it was in Anuradhapura that the great Sinhala warrior-hero Dutthagamani delivered the Sinhala people from Tamil rule. It was also in Anuradhapura that the killing of Tamils was given Buddhist sanction! Surprised ?

The Mahavamsa, the "Great Chronicle", which is both History and Bible to Sinhala Buddhists records how Dutthagamani having slain the Tamil king Elara and jubilant in victory but yet remorseful of the "destruction of millions" rested "on his soft and fair couch" on the "terrace of the palace". There came to Anuradhapura through the air eight "arahants" (creatures no longer subject to birth) who comforted the king. "From this deed arises no hindrance on the way to heaven. Only one and a half human beings have been slain here by thee, O Lord of Men. The one had come into the three refuges (i.e. was a Buddhist) and the other had taken on himself the Five Precepts (i.e was half-way to being a Buddhist). UNBELIEVERS AND MEN OF EVIL LIFE WERE THE REST, NOT MORE TO BE ESTEEMED THAN BEASTS".

A contemporary Buddhist scholar monk reiterates this: "The entire Sinhalese race was united under the banner of young Gamani. This was the beginning of Nationalism among the Sinhalese. It was a new race with healthy young blood, organised under the new order of Buddhism. A king of religio-nationalism, which almost amounted to fanaticism, roused the whole Sinhala people. A non-Buddhist was not regarded as a human being" (History of Buddhism in Ceylon: The Anuradhapura Period. By Bhikkhu Rahula, Colombo, Gunasena, 1956)

The raw nerve of Sinhala consciousness again leads us back to Anuradhapura. The decline of the Sinhala power and the gradual shift of Sinhala kingdoms from Anuradhapura to capitals further and further south was caused by Tamil invaders from South India. The Culavamsa which continues the story from the Mahavamsa says the sacred city (of Anuradhapura) "had been utterly destroyed in every way by the Cola army".

This then was the Anuradhapura where on the 14th May Tamil militants are believed to have walked in (in a kingdom that was wholly Jayawardene's) and massacred 150 Sinhalese. Is history beginning to repeat itself ? Are we going to the centuries back that every Sinhala child has been initiated into in the classrooms ? Are the Sinhala people looking about desperately for their new Dutthagamani ?.

There is no doubt about it. May 14 marks a watershed in Sri Lanka's contemporary history.

From Anuradhapura to Polonnaruwa

If what happened on May 14 in their ancient capital numbed the Sinhala Buddhists, they could have hardly envisaged that within six days their medieval capital of Polonnaruwa was to prove equally vulnerable. Were events that were spread over six centuries being telescoped into six days ?

Michael Hamlyn said in his report to the TIMES, London (May 21): The bridge at Manampitiya, a few miles outside Polonnaruwa, was attacked by extremists yesterday, though they were fought off by the police picket guarding it. Two policemen were killed... the attack has curtailed the plans of Mr. Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister to visit the area later this week...

Ian Ward in a report to the DAILY TELEGRAPH (May 21) said: Tamil terrorists opened fire yesterday on an American aid project attached to Sri Lanka's giant Mahaweli irrigation scheme, forcing the entire expatriate construction team and their dependents to flee to safety. There were no casualties among the foreigners who were quickly withdrawn from the field to the consortium's guarded base camp, located 10 miles south-east of Polonnaruwa, the famed city of ruined temples...

David Palister in a report to the GUARDIAN, London (May 21) said: An embassy (U.S.) spokesman agreed that the project at Polonnaruwa was potentially a target because the irrigation work was part of the government's strategy to resettle Sinhalese farmers in areas claimed by the Tamil separatists...

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Tamil-Muslim clashes or State-directed violence against Tamils ?

On three days in April, on Friday the 12th, Saturday the 13th and Sunday the 14th, the East coast Tamil village of Karaitivu, about 27 miles south of Batticaloa, was subject to fierce, sustained attacks, leaving in their wake a trail of destruction that included (according to an independent Sinhala observer) 11 dead, over 40 hospitalised, 12,000 homeless, millions worth of damage and a succession of events that have over-run the Eastern Province".

Karaitivu is spread over 6 sq.miles and is surrounded by Muslim villages, a phenomenon peculiar to the Eastern Province where one finds Muslim villages interspersed with Tamil villages and vice versa.

When reports of the violence reached Colombo, a group of concerned citizens met to inquire into what possible action could be taken to ascertain the nature of the vents. The group felt that "existing procedures for preventing such violence, for maintaining law and order and for providing redress to victims were wholly inadequate in the context of deteriorating ethnic relations..." It was a euphemistic way of saying that the State machinery was inadequate.

A respected Sinhala educationist, Dr. Frank Jayasinghe, undertook to go on a fact-finding mission to the area on behalf of the citizens' committee and report his findings, which he did, and in fact submit his report to President Jayawardene. The State-kept Sri Lanka Press blacked out the report. Here are some excerpts from Dr. Jayasinghe's report:

(1) Friday, 12th April, 1985:

In the morning, about 3000 Muslim youth from the surrounding villages crossed the "border" that separate the villages and began to attack houses first with stones and then proceeded to set fire to them. According to the people we interviewed at the Karaitivu refugee camp, they all heard gun shots which were recognised as emanating from automatic weapons and not shotguns, which incidentally were once possessed by people in these areas, but have since been withdrawn by the Government.

It was alleged by eye-witnesses that members of the STF dressed in civilian clothing provided the attackers fire-cover The general pattern appeared to be an overrunning of a particular location by the Muslims with supportive fire power allegedly provided by the STF, with the demolition of house and property once the inmates had fled It should be noted that we were repeatedly informed that the fireing was in the air, and not directed at people.

We were informed that this attack ceased around noon, and recommended in the early afternoon and continued till dark, with the general pattern outlined above being replicated in these attacks.

(2) Saturday, 13th April, 1985:

The attack recommenced on the 2nd day, early morning, by the same assailants numbering about 3000, includng allegedly the STF.

An important feature of Saturday's attack was the fact that a group of Muslims attacked Karaitivu from the East in boats which belonged to a State owned fisheries union. Allegedly, members of the STF were also a party to this attack, and here too allegedly provided fire cover support for the Muslims.

There was a replication of the same pattern in this attack as well, with homes, schools and temples being attacked and burnt.

Here too the firing was directed not at persons but instead in the air, and the attack ceased at nightfall.

(3) Sunday, 14th April, 1985:

The attack recommenced very early morning and on Sunday the entire village was apparently overrun with the same pattern of destruction and looting of property.

A significant feature of Sunday's attack was the allegation that 2 helicopters kept on encircling the village, at a low altitude, allegedly firing at the village and more importantly dropping explosives on the village. Apparently Sunday's attack was the most severe. ■

'What Alam Khan said was right'

A former Minister belonging to the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) and leader of the Council of Muslims, Dr. Badiuddin Mahmud, has said that Muslims in the island nation "need not be perturbed" over the recent statement made by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. Khurshed Alam Khan, on the ethnic problem in the Rajya Sabha, the English "Island" daily reported on May, 13th.

In a front page report, the newspaper quoted Dr. Mahmud as saying that "in his opinion, Mr. Alam Khan's statement was factual". He also said that "leaflets were issued outside Colombo mosques after 'jumma' prayers on Friday and, as far as he was concerned, the signatory organisation was one which had mushroomed overnight". The leaflets were printed in Sinhala and Tamil on behalf of an organisation called the Council for Protection of Muslims from Terrorism. They criticised Mr. Alam Khan's statement and announced that a mass protest meeting would be held at Maligawatte on May 17." ■

Flanked by Sri Sabaratnam, leader of TELO, on the left, and V. Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers on the right, are Padmanabha of EPRLF and Balakumar of EROS, all four of whom signed the Unity statement on April 10, 1985. All four groups had vowed in the joint statement that they would accept nothing short of an independent state for the Tamils as a political goal.

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What is going to be Thondaman's future ?

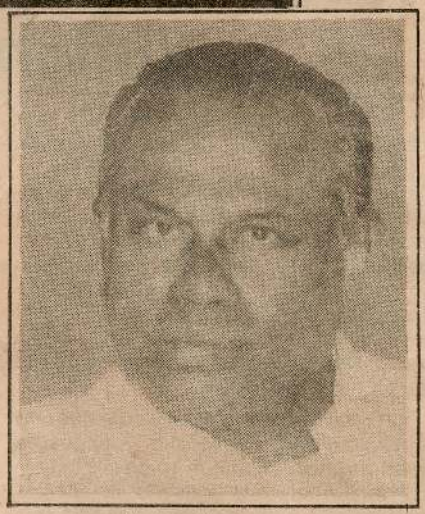
For a man who occupies a Cabinet berth in President Jayawardene's government — and being a Tamil at that — it is amazing to hear the kind of statements that Mr. S. Thondaman makes publicly, and even more amazing to find how he gets away with them !

The world knew, or at least suspected that the Muslim-Tamil clashes in the Eastern Province were engineered by the government, with the help of Police Commandos and thugs brought from outside. While Minister Dewanayagam came out openly about the Commando participation and quickly withdrew the statement under government pressure, Minister Thondaman stood his ground when he said that busloads of thugs had been sent from Colombo. He repeated the charge when he told the Colombo Tamil newspaper, the "Virakesari", that persons in seven buses and two jeeps had gone from Colombo, and outside forces like these were responsible for fuelling the troubles in the East. In fact, the Minister had the previous day conveyed this information that he had got, to the President himself.

On April 24, Cabinet spokesman Anandatissa de Alwis briefing the Press, described Thondaman's statement as a "collection of crap" and called it "stupid", and said he had recommended to the government the closure of the "Virakesari" for publishing a statement that was "untrue" without even referring it to the Censor. When asked what action would be taken against the Minister himself, he said "No action has been contemplated".

On April 26, "The Island" reported that President Jayawardene was to advise his Ministers not to talk out of turn in public.

Whether the advice was given or taken we do not know. But Mr. Thondaman was even more forthright, on a more sensitive issue, barely two weeks later. Speaking at a farewell function in honour of the departing Indian High Commissioner S.J.S. Chhatwal in Colombo, he virtually pleaded for the official recognition of the Tamil Eelam liberation movement, and pooh-poohed repeated government allegations of terrorist violence. He said: "All this continuous talk about (terrorist) violence is of little avail. The Palestine Liberation Organisation which had used violence in its struggle has been given recognition by the United Nations. Sri Lanka which is a member of the United Nations never objected to it. India also did not object to this. There should be some similar approach to the Sri Lankan situation in order to quickly bring about



an end to this vast human tragedy... we feel. Your Excellency, that there should be a new radical approach, a sharp break from the past".

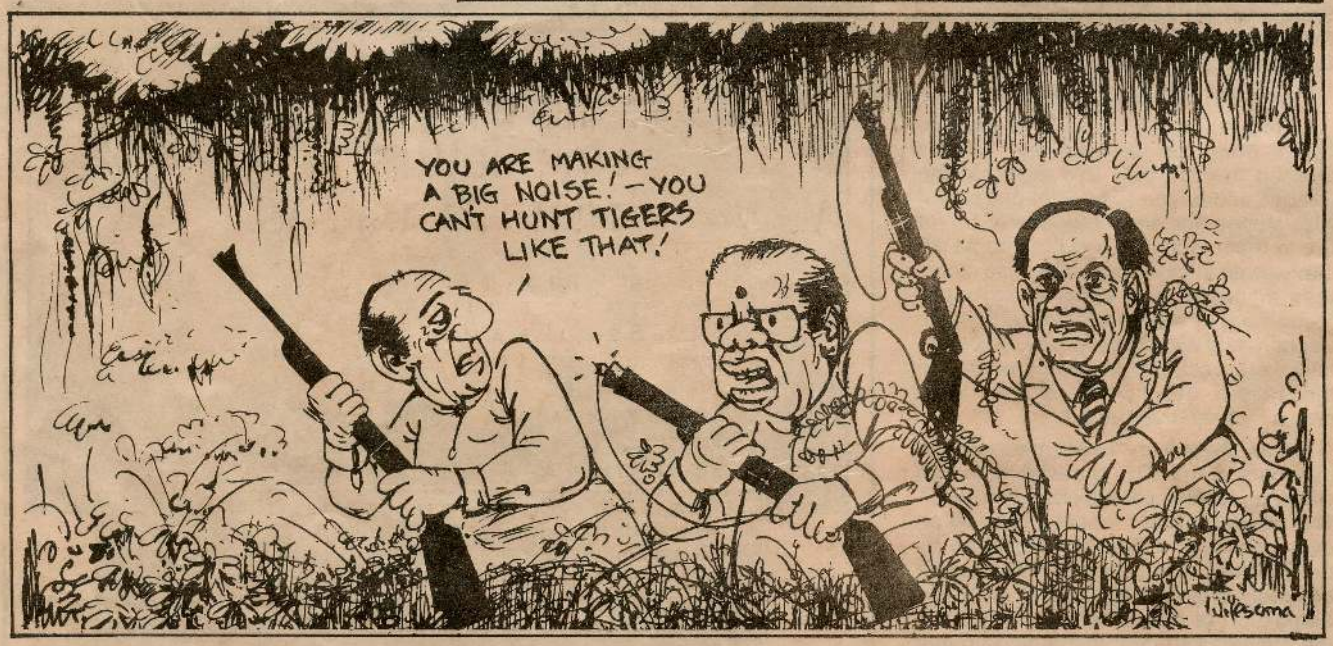
The Madras evening daily "News Today" of May 7 commented:

When the speech was carried in the newspapers there was prompt demand from the fuling UNP circles for the dismissal of the Tamil minister. These circles pointed out that Cyril Mathew, the hawk on the side of the Sinhalese was dropped from the Cabinet for extremist views; in order to hold the scales even, Jayawardene should act against Thondaman also, these circles said.

According to Thondaman who is not bothered about the demand for his dismissal the deepening of the ethnic crisis in the island and the intensification of discrimination had made the problem complex. Solutions thought of earlier had become out of date because of changed situations, he said.

An interesting question that needs answering is: Why is Thondaman not bothered about the demand for his dismissal ?

A possible answer would be: In the event of his dismissal, it is the government that has more to lose than Thondaman!



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INDIAN ARMY COULD MAKE A FAIT ACCOMPLI OF THAMIL EELAM IN 6 HOURS !

TIME magazine's DEAN BRELIS prognosticates:

Here is a complete transcript of an interview with TIME magazine correspondent Dean Brelis over New Zealand Radio on the The World This Week programme of 26 March 1985:

TIMOTHY BIRCH: We've got one other flash point in India's external politics, which looks to be explosive in the near future, and that's in Sri Lanka, where the Tamil Separatist Movement is becoming even more activist. Where violence is growing. Where, from what I understand, from our conversation earlier, there looks like the beginnings of a separatist state, supported by India. Can I ask you Dean Brelis, how you see that one developing ?

DEAN BRELIS: Well I think that the Tamil Separatists will increase their numbers in the north. Will increase their military operations in the north, and in my view it's very much like the situation was in Vietnam, just before TET, when guerillas escalate the war... from a guerilla war to a conventional war, where they take and hold ground. And I expect to see these Tamil Separatists announce that they have... a declaration of an independent state called Elam(?). I think that the danger point is what will happen to the Tamils in the south. July 1983, the Sinhalese turned on them, ruthlessly, and they will do the same thing again, I'm sure, if the Sinhalese Army in the north is losing, as it surely will lose, because they've not been able to contain the growth of the Tamil Separatist Movement. When this happens, Rajiv Gandhi will have to make a decision on whether or not to send the Indian Army in there, to make a defacto state in as shorter time, say some Indian Officers, as 6 hours. A 6 hour war, and then present the fact to the United Nations and ask for a United Nations Force to come in, to let Tamils from the south come up into the north, and then to negotiate. Because there are no negotiations, no talks now.

BIRCH: Is there considerable Congress rapport with the Tamils ? There was speculation, August, September of last year, that Mrs. Gandhi would do exactly the same thing. Send the Indian Army into Sri Lanka before the elections. One presumes that momentum continues and the rapport between her son and the Tamils in the north continues ?

BRELIS: The rapport definitely continues. He has said, publically, on several occasions, that he does not want to have military intervention by the Indian Army, into Sri Lanka, but he has also expressed his concern about what's happening to the Tamils of Sri Lanka. He, I think, will feel that if they're slaughtering Tamils by the hundreds and thousands in the south, he will have no choice. All of India will tell him to go in. And it'll be very much like the Bangladesh situation, and there is no question about, I don't think it's too optimistic for Indian Army Officers to say they would end it in 6 hours. I think they've got that military capability.

BIRCH: And with that disturbing prediction about the possible invasion of Sri Lanka by India, we end this edition of The World This week. We've been talking to Dean Brelis of Time Magazine.

Sri Lanka's Losing battle: Heavy army and Police Casualties.

48 Sinhala soldiers were killed when a Commando unit of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation launched an attack on the TV Station and the near by army camp at Kokkilai, near Murikandy, 120 k.m. south of Jaffna on May 9th. While regretting the loss of nine members of the assault unit, the TELO in a press note said: "Our losses would have been negligible if we had better equipment to cope with the heavy American and British weapons used by the enemy."

35 Police Commandos were killed on April 3rd when a nine member-ambush unit of EROS exploded land-mines at Koduvamadu near Chenkaladi in the Eastern province. Sub-Inspector Weeratunga who underwent specialized anti-guerrilla training in Britain and who commanded the Police Party was also one of the victims. Three informers who came along with the Police Party were also killed. Several M-16 and A.K. 47 weapons were also seized by EROS militants.

A planned assault operation by EROS on April 25th in the Sinhala majority jungle area of Komari in the Amparai district, resulted in the killing of 25 members of the Special Task Force (Police Commandos).

EROS had meanwhile claimed responsibility for two bomb blasts in Colombo: the one that went off at the Katunayake International Airport rail terminal on the eve of Margaret Thatcher's visit on April 10th and the one that went off damaging an army head quarters building on April 30.

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Will Mother India help keep the Eelam baby alive ?

G. Nellailingam *4, Awamutu Grove Lower Hutt, New Zealand*

Are the convulsions now being experienced by Tamils in Sri Lanka, the death throes of a nation facing annihilation or the birth pangs of a nascent State? Since history has a habit of repeating itself the answer of course is the latter. The genocide attempt by Hitler's Nazis on the Jews resulted in the Jewish state of Israel being born again after 2000 years. Likewise the Jayawardene regime's current genocidal onslaught on the Tamils can only lead to the rebirth of Tamil Eelam.

Tamils of Eelam (Sri Lanka) are indeed a nation by virtue of possession of their own distinctive language, religion and culture. They continue to occupy a well defined geographic territory, in the north and east of the island, for well over two millennia. The kingdom of Tamil Eelam co-existed with two Sinhalese kingdoms until the arrival of the Portuguese, the first of the European Colonial powers, in the sixteenth century. The territorial integrity of the Tamil nation was preserved throughout the four and a half centuries of colonial rule. In 1833 Britain, purely for administrative convenience brought the two diverse nations under a unitary state. Even during the British era only Tamils went south to live among the Sinhalese and not vice versa.

When Sri Lanka was granted Dominion status in 1948 only the administration passed on to the people of the island while sovereignty was still vested on the British Crown. The blatantly racist and discriminative policies of successive Sinhalese governments were vigorously resisted by Tamils through peaceful protests which were met with increasing physical violence against them, culminating in the first island-wide anti-Tamil pogrom of 1958. By then more than 7000 Km, nearly a third, of Tamil homelands came under Sinhalese occupation through state sponsored colonisation. After 1958 Governments including the UNP regime of 1965/70 suspended this territorial aggression, though oppression of Tamils in all other aspects of their existence was intensified. The present UNP regime resumed Sinhalese colonisation of Tamil lands with renewed vigour in the aftermath of the 1983 holocaust for Tamils. President Jayawardene announced in January his intentions to settle armed Sinhalese throughout the Tamil provinces. This policy, if implemented, is certain to engulf the entire island in the flames of civil war.

In 1972 Sri Lanka adopted its present name and a republican constitution, severing the last colonial links with Britain. Tamils rejected both this constitution and the current one adopted in 1978, as these failed to recognize Tamils as equal citizens and to safeguard even their basic rights. Thus the sovereignty, which they lost to the Portuguese in 1505, reverted back to the Tamils when Britain abandoned its sovereignty over Sri Lanka in 1972. Hence it is evident that Sri Lanka (Sinhalese) usurped Tamil sovereignty and its rule over Tamils is neither by conquest nor by consent. When all proposals by Tamils to secure their human rights within a united Sri Lanka were rejected out of hand by the Sinhalese majority, Tamils decided, by virtue of their regained sovereignty, to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. The historic Vaddukoddai resolution of 1976 called for the restoration and reconstitution of the sovereign state of Tamil Eelam in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka and in the last general elections, held in 1977, the Tamils gave an overwhelming mandate to carry this out.

The rapid deterioration of the situation since then, brought about by the genocidal military oppression and the numerous pogroms against Tamils, has resulted in increased pressure, on India in particular and the International Community in general, to step in and save the Tamils from the impending disaster. Tamil nation's screams for help remain unanswered to date due to Sri Lanka's spurious claim to sovereignty over Tamils.

The principles of International Law regarding self-determination of nations approved by the UN General Assembly in 1970, make an important qualification on the sovereignty of states: "Nothing in the foregoing paragraphs shall be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent states conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal right and self-determination and thus possessed of a Government representing the whole people belonging to the territory without distinction as to race, creed or colour."

It should be noted that the political and economic sanctions imposed against South Africa stemmed from that country's failure to meet this qualification. There can be no doubt in any informed mind that Sri Lanka also does not meet this criterion in any respect and therefore has no claim to sovereignty over Tamils or their homelands. That the Sri Lanka Government does not represent Tamils is amply demonstrated to the world by its own action to arm Sinhalese in the Tamil areas after the very first guerilla attack on Sinhalese ex-convict settlements in the north last December, in comparison to its dismal failure to even protect Tamils, let alone arm them, during and after repeated rioting against Tamils in the south over the past eight years. The draconian regulations, rigorously enforced in the Tamil homelands, make the notorious pass laws of South Africa pale in comparison, and bring to mind a late Tamil leader's words: "Racism in South Africa is only skin deep whereas in Sri Lanka it is soul deep."

Conflicting interests of two major powers in Sri Lanka's ethnic tangle have made matters even more complicated. Colombo's military strategy, political settlement having been already abandoned, for the FINAL SOLUTION to its racial problem appears to be based on two premises. Firstly, the extreme restraint hitherto exhibited by India in the face of the diabolic military repression unleashed on the hapless Tamils seems to have led Jayawardene to believe that India will do nothing more than making threatening noises even if the genocide were to be completed. After all, the genocide, conducted piecemeal has been hardly noticed by the rest of the world. Moreover direct intervention by the world's fourth largest military power against its tiny neighbour is bound to tarnish India's image as the leader of the non-aligned world. Further, having to contend with fissiparous tendencies within India's own borders, carving Tamil Eelam out of Sri Lanka should be the last thing on Rajiv Gandhi's mind.

Secondly, should New Delhi's patience finally run out and the unimaginable happen, Jayawardene feels confident that the United States will come to his rescue in the face of such 'naked aggression'. Sri Lanka is host to the largest VoA station outside America and is willing to allow military traffic through it. which even NATO allies balk at. The tempting bait of Trincomalee harbour ought to be irresistible to the Pentagon now that more and more allied ports are shutting out US warships.

Yet, those who fail to learn from history are condemned to relive it. Americans did not go beyond sabre rattling even when Pakistan, a military ally for years, ►

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was dismembered under similar circumstances at the turn of the last decade. It is therefore unlikely that President Reagan will order the seventh fleet into the Bay of Bengal as Americans are well aware of Sri Lanka's final goal, despite the Pentagon's desire to turn Sri Lanka into a giant American Aircraft Carrier. Besides there are many signs that Washington is moving to improve its ties with India and its new leader. The White House will not risk a fatal rupture with India by rushing to the aid of a regime that persists in committing a crime against humanity. Recent refusal by the Americans to grant major military assistance to an undisciplined Sri Lankan force that is waging a reign of terror in the north and east of the country, serves to underscore this. (TIME 11/2/85)

In the aftermath of Indira Gandhi's assassination India emerged unified and under a strong leader. Rajiv Gandhi is mindful of keeping his election pledge to the people of Tamil Nadu, who gave him a massive mandate along with the rest of India, regarding Tamils in Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan rulers have spurned Indian overtures for a political solution within a united Sri Lanka and acceptable to the Tamils. Increasing influx of Tamils fleeing the rampaging troops is reaching crisis levels not only in India but in many European countries as well. Political commentators are unanimous that Sri Lanka is the top priority foreign policy issue facing Rajiv Gandhi right now. Daily reports reaching Delhi of several Tamil civilians killed by security forces and Jayawardene's intransigence are no doubt wearing the young Prime Minister's patience thin.

The right to self-determination, though inalienable, is a right that can be exercised only once. The several nations which constitute the Indian Union exercised that right on 26 January, 1950 when they adopted India's republican constitution. Hence Tamil Eelam will not set a precedent to divisive forces either in India or any other country that protects the rights of all its people without discrimination. It should be recalled that the liberation of Bangladesh did not spur the people of West Bengal to seek autonomy and Tamil Nadu is likely to erupt only if the genocide is not halted and not otherwise. When the full horror of the plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka becomes known to the world any Indian action to remedy the situation will be widely acclaimed.

For six weeks during the immensely popular Satyagraha by Tamils in 1961, Sri Lanka's civil authority did not exist in the Tamil provinces. The Sinhalese army that came to Tamil homelands to brutally break up this passive protest stayed on ever since. The savage actions of this occupying army over the years engendered, in the early seventies, liberation movements among Tamil youths. The draconian measures taken by Sri Lanka to suppress these movements had the opposite effect, so much so that there has been no civil authority in the Tamil areas for the past year or more and "The authority of the army is confined to the frontiers of our camps" as Brigadier Seneviratne confided to his superiors in December (The Sunday Times — 27.1.85). The 'Terrorists label put on these young Tamils by the Sri Lankan regime did not stick either, because the preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims: "Whereas it is essential, if man is not be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by rule of law" and informed opinion is unanimous that not even the right to life, liberty and security of Tamils is protected by law in Sri Lanka.

Racism is an evil that brings out the worst in man and by its very nature, force is the only language racism speaks and understands. The greatest apostle of non-violence in the modern era, Mahatma Gandhi, in his policy statement on non-violence, declared: "In order to prevent the annihilation of a race, I shall bear arms readily." The chances for a peaceful secession like Singapore or a referendum as in Quebec appear to be less than that of a proverbial snow flake in hell. Thus Tamils may have to pay a heavy price for their freedom.

For the nonce, India and the rest of the world recognize Sri Lankan sovereignty over Tamils despite all the irrefutable arguments to the contrary, possession being nine-tenths of the law. However the increasing effectiveness of the campaign being waged by the Tamil liberation forces suggest that it cannot be long before possession reverts to the rightful owners and Tamil Eelam is born. Sri Lanka, which is making strenuous efforts to abort the birth, will of course try to strangle the infant state at birth. While it is not necessary for Mother India to be the midwife, Tamils certainly expect her to help keep the baby alive. As Edmund Burke observed: "All that is essential for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." There need be no doubt that Rajiv Gandhi will meet his obligations. ■

PLOT Swings into action !

With a surprise successful attack on the Nikewaratiya Police Station on the 25th of April, the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamileelam (PLOT) entered the Tamil Liberation struggle marking is first major operation, in the post July 1983 period.

A crest-fallen Minister for Natonal Security Lalith Athulathmudali confessed in Parliament that "the authorities had not expected the militants to come so far south". Nikeweratiya is situated on the Kurunegala — Puttalam road. Observers in Colombo said "if the Tamil militants were responsible for the attack, it introduced a new element into the troubled situation in the island because they apparently felt strong enough to conduct raids in pre-dominantly Sinhalese areas".

A press release issued by PLOT under the name of S. Kannan, Military Secretary, National Polit Bureau, said:

"On the 25th April 1985, Commandos of the People's Liberation Organisation of Thamileelam successfully captured the police station at Nikeweratiya. Situated approximately 60 kilometres outside Colombo, Nikeweratiya is in the heartland of Sinhalese country. The commondos of PLOT after taking over the police station removed all weapons including revolvers, rifles, sub-machine guns and repeater, and shot guns.

"The People's Liberation Organisation of Thamileelam has repeatedly stressed through its radio broadcasts (Voice of Thamileelam) and its publications that the Sinhalese people are not the enemies of the Tamil people. The Tamil liberation struggle is not against the Sinhalese people, their race, language or religion.

"The People's Liberation Organisation of Thamileelam also recognises that the members of the police force and the armed services are mainly the sons of workers and peasants who because of economic deprivation have been forced to join the armed forces. As such the raid, precisely planned and executed was carried out with minimum loss of life.

"The attack and capture of the Nikeweratiya police station gives a new dimension to the armed struggle, until recently confined to the northern and eastern provinces. The attack on the Nikeweratiya police station while executed by commandos of the People's Liberation Organisation of Thamileelam was with the support and collaboration of the Sinhala masses and members of the police force.

"The People's Liberation Organisation of Thamileelam regrets the death of the police officer who died during the action.

"With this successful operation the way has now been cleared for more future joint actions of the oppressed people to overthrow the fascists and their imperialist backers now ruling the country." ■

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What Israelis do in Lebanon Sri Lankans do in Tamil Eelam!

Why is there a close similarity in the patterns of behaviour of Sri Lankan security terrorist forces and Israeli forces in Lebanon villages ? Could it be mere coincidence or the result of Mossad coaching ? Hundreds of innocent Tamil youths taken into detention and later released have testified to hooded people in army vehicles who give mute signals whereupon they are bundled into buses and whisked away. Killing ten Tamil civilians in retaliation for the killing of one Sinhala soldier is of course a familiar pattern that Tamils have come to expect. The similarities do not end there – if you read the following report from Lebanon, published in the American NEWSWEEK of March 25, 1985:–

The southern Lebanon village of Zrariyeh overlooks Israeli lines at the Litani River and had become a sanctuary for resistance fighters. A day after the suicide mission that killed 12 Israeli soldiers, three columns of Israeli tanks attacked the town from three sides, leaving at least 34 resistance fighters and civilians dead. Newsweek's Beirut bureau chief, Rod Nordland, visited the village the next day and heard local accounts of what happened. His report:

Although the Israelis denied that Zrariyeh was attacked as a reprisal for the suicide bombing, it was clear that they intended to teach the village a lesson.

Tanks roamed the crooked lanes of the hilltop community of 15,000, flattening every parked car. Squads of soldiers ransaked every home, searching for arms, munitions and young men, whom they herded into the square next to the mosque. If the soldiers found as much as a fatigue jacket, said Riad al Assad, one of only nine resistance fighters who ultimately escaped, the house was demolished. About 40 houses and the police station are now in rubble. "I told them I'm just an old woman; and I have no sons in the country, please have pity," Akey Mrowi said she told Israeli soldiers planting charges in her house. "They said there is no pity".

Hood: All of the young men and teenage boys were herded into the square. Israeli military-intelligence officers read names from along list, and when few responded, the Israelis produced a man wearing a hood with one hole for his right eye. He waded through the crowd looking at everyone sideways, pointing out suspected resistance members. The Israelis filled four buses with at least 130 prisoners ranging in age from 13 to 40. Then an Israeli intelligence officer, who villagers said identified himself as Abu Zaid, made a speech. "Every time one Israeli soldier is killed, we will come and kill 10 of you with our own hands," Zaid was quoted as saying. Villagers said Zaid told them he knew the suicide car came from Zrariyeh and added: "If there are any more such operations, we will gather all of you in the square and drive tanks over you."

Suddenly, Zaid tore the hood of the informer's head – revealing Ahmed el Abad Zreit, 25. Described as a ne'er-do-well from a prominent village family, Zreit had only recently joined the resistance – and a week earlier he had disappeared from the village. After the Israelis took Zreit and their prisoners away, his heighbors vowed vengeance. "His own brother said, 'If I ever see him again I will kill him myself", said a cousin, Lubna Zreit. Four of her brothers are now Israeli prisoners as a result of the informer's work.

While many families claimed that their sons turned in by Zreit were innocent, others were more frank. A young woman who has three brothers in Israeli custody told me: "Of course they were in the resistance – and we're all proud of them." When I asked five-year-old Loda why he had a handmade wooden replica of a Kalashnikov automatic rifle, his mother replied fiercely: "To kill Israelis, and someday it will not be of wood." Said another woman, "When we suckle our babies we will put into the milk the desire to destroy Israel."

Many openly expressed approval of the suicide bomb attack. "Everyone in the village admires that," said a woman whose home was demolished by explosive charges. "Every time they blow up a house or kill one of us, another will be ready to die killing them." Sure enough, the day after Zrariyeh was hit resistance fighters drove a station wagon up to the Qasmiyeh Bridge, turned around and parked. When an Israeli patrol approached, they threw open the rear doors and opened fire with a machine gun. Two soldiers were killed, bringing the Israeli death toll in the occupation of southern Lebanon to 637.

British Government gifts 1,000 houses to Thamil Eelam !

Now, now, don't run away with wrong ideas about Iron Lady Margaret Thatcher. What the British government is doing is giving direct aid to the Sri Lanka government to build 1,000 houses at Kokkilai. The contract to build the houses is already given, and work on construction is to begin soon.

The Sri Lanka government proposes to settle a 1,000 Sinhala fishermen families in these houses. Where the government would succeed in persuading the Sinhalese families to move to this eastern coastal village in the predominantly Tamil district of Mullaitivu is a moot question, particularly after the Anuradhapura killings, but Tamil Eelam circles are hoping that the houses would be completed to schedule, because eventually they are bound to end up as Margaret Thatcher's gifts to the people of Thamil Eelam!

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It is no internal matter, says Janata Party

India's Janata Party adopted the following resolution on the situation in Sri Lanka at the meeting of its National Executive on 30th and 31st March: The resolution was moved by Mr. Era Sezhiyan:—

"The National Executive of the Janata Party views with grave concern the alarming increase in the intensity frequency and ferocity of violence against the Tamil speaking people in Sri Lanka. Since Independence in 1949, there had been a steady deterioration in the relationship between the major ethnic communities there and despite assurances and agreements, successive Governments of Sri Lanka have failed to ensure autonomy and security of the Tamil speaking minority. The unprecedented violence in July 1983 against the ethnic minority, condemned by the International Commission of Jurists as

"a series of deliberate acts, executed in accordance with a concerted plan, conceived and organised well in advance", made the world wake up to realise the agony of a long suffering people.

"The people of India, with historic, cultural, ethnic and linguistic ties with the people of Sri Lanka forced the Government of India to take the initiative to arrange negotiations among the parties concerned. However, the All Parties Conference held in Colombo, failed to produce any results as the Jayawardhane Government resiled from previously accepted formulae granting autonomy and self government to the Tamil majority areas within the framework of territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. On the one hand Sri Lanka government has since then shown little interest in resuming negotiations for a political settlement, on the other, it has launched a military operating against them resulting in genocide, with the support of foreign mercenaries, whose apparent objective is the expulsion of Sri Lankan Tamils from their homeland. This organised violence has forced out more than 80,000 Tamils to seek refuge in India; terrorised and divested of their savings, hundreds are coming into India every day, reminiscent of the Bangladesh exodus of 1971.

"The National Executive feels that systematic and persistent violation of human rights and perpetration of genocide of an ethnic minority in contravention of the International Charter of Human Rights has not been and cannot be treated as an internal matter and concealed from international scrutiny on the plea of domestic jurisdiction. India has rightly championed the cause of the victims of racism in South Africa and of the Palestinian and Bangladesh refugees. Moreover social turbulance and military action in Sri Lanka resulting in continuous flow of refugees into India disturbs the peace and tranquility of the region as a whole.

"The National Executive calls upon the Government of India to mobilise world opinion against this genocide and against supply of arms and expertise to Sri Lanka and to take all possible steps necessary for protecting the life and honour and safeguarding the rights of the Tamil community and thus create proper conditions for the return of the Tamil refugees to their homeland, in peace and dignity." ■

ERA SEZHIAN — one who always raised his voice on behalf of Eelam Tamils

Era. Sezhian is one public figure in Tamil Nadu who, cutting through party distinctions, consistently raised his voice on behalf of the oppressed Sri Lankan Tamils.

"He is down but certainly not out" says the Madras magazine ASIDE, paying him a tribute in its recent issue.

"Era Sezhian of the Janata Party, who lost the South Madras constituency seat rather ingloriously to Congress-I's glamorous Vyjayanthimala Bali in the recent elections, exhibits such an engaging sense of balance and humour that one begins to wish he hadn't lost. When we met him recently, he admitted that he was disappointed by his defeat. "But in all fairness, I must admit that it was a free and fair election. And, in a way I am relieved that I am out of the race. The post of an ex-MP is more permanent than that of an MP!" (A sentiment which no doubt our own TULF Parliamentarians will heartily endorse!)

ASIDE adds: "A parliamentarian for over 20 years, Era Sezhian has always enjoyed a reputation for being 'clean'. He was in the DMK until 1977, then left it to become one of the architects of the Janata Party. He is one of the few politicians who has taken care to study, analyse and adhere to parliamentary rules and procedures, of which he is an acknowledged authority."

"Being the sort of man he is, Era Sezhian is the first to admit that the Congress-I won massively not only because of the 'Sympathy factor' but also because the opposition had lost credibility with the people. "You could call it a no-confidence motion against the opposition!" he remarked wryly. He was quick to add, with a smile, "But don't keep us in the wilderness for long. A change in the ruling party now and then is a healthy sign of democracy!"

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Killers and the Killed

It is often correctly said that public memory is very short. And quite often, because of that, people develop a kind of public hypocrisy, particularly on issues that do not concern them personally. Here is a flashback to almost three years ago. The following editorial that appeared in the Jaffna-based "Saturday Review" of July 3rd 1982, (and penned by the Editor of "Tamil Information" while he was in charge of the Jaffna weekly) should give an insight to non-Tamil readers the torments that Tamils had been undergoing over the past several years. It is worth recalling that the police force led the State oppression in Tamil areas at that point of time and consequently became victims of Tamil Liberation fighters. The fact that the Tamil Liberation struggle had advanced during these three years could be seen by the almost complete withdrawal of the police force from the scene of oppression. It is also worth recalling that this editorial was written one year before the major anti-Tamil pogram of July 1983.

Only a month ago, President Jeyewardene made a facetious reference to the Tigers being tamed and a Colombo daily ran the screaming headline JAFFNA TIGERS GET EXTINCT.

Last night's gunning down of four policemen in a street junction ambush with three others on the injured list, proves, if nothing else can prove, that the government thinking on the subject of Sinhala-Tamil relations continues to be erratic and misguided. After all, nearly three years have gone since the President gave that grandiloquent order to the then Army Chief of Staff to eliminate terrorism "in all its forms" from the Jaffna District. But when for twenty years the Federal Party and then the Tamil United Liberation Front leaders kept on making repeated protests that the North and East were being held in virtual military occupation and the Police themselves were behaving in Tamil areas as an "army of occupation", Sinhalese leaders of whichever party in power reacted with the characteristic amusement of rulers who are sure of the guns and bayonets in the State arsenals. The Sinhalese public themselves by and large, appeared to relish the idea of being the ruling race in the country.

Twenty years is too long a period for even a peace loving people to put up with State terrorism "in all its forms". Leaders often suffer under a mistaken belief that once a government is lawfully constituted, they have the power over the heads of citizens, particularly when the citizens happen to represent an identifiable minority. It is that kind of thinking that has led us to this impasse where the government with all its powerful military apparatus is unable to protect its own Police force and the Army from these so-called "terrorists".

It is very conventional to condemn killings. Taking a life is certainly a very serious business. But the Sinhala governments, the large majority of Sinhalese people, the Sinhala Press, nay even the English-language Press, has time and again neutralised their minds into thinking that the killing of Tamils by mobs, during anti-Tamil riots, and the killing of Tamil youths by the Police and the Army, were not matters which should seriously disturb their minds and hearts. But the moment the worm turned, and desperate Tamil youths took to guns, it was then that they began talking of what a terrible thing it is to kill!

It is therefore hypocritical to sit on the fence when it comes to one kind of killing and do a wild song and dance when it comes to another kind of killing; because killing is all same. It is the taking of a precious life, a right no man has over another, under whatever circumstances. The number of Tamils killed over the past twenty six years for the simple reason that they were born Tamils, far outnumber the number of policemen killed for the simple reason that they were in uniform and were trying to do their allotted duties. This is ofcourse not to include the number of policemen killed because they paid the price for their acts of inhuman torture.

If the killed are those who become victims of circumstances, the killers are themselves victims of circumstances. If a government cannot find ways to stop creating and fostering these circumstances, that government has failed in its duty by all its citizens.

Sri Lanka's losing battle: Another Police Station goes !

The Mannar Police Station was completely destroyed in the early hours of 10th May, when an assault unit of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam launched a lightning attack. Several Police Commandos were killed, and the rest fled in fear. The guerrillas subsequently raided the armoury and captured a large quantity of arms and ammunition, including semi-automatic rifles, 303 rifles, sub-machine guns, repeaters, pistols, gas guns and land mines.

The Police station complex was thereafter blasted with high explosives, razing to the ground the main building, the communication office, the S.P.'s office and the Commandos' Rest House.

Army Major killed

In a separate incident on the 9th May at the northern coastal town of Valvettiturai, Major Srilal Mendis and five soldiers were killed when a lone LTTE guerrilla fighter named Jeyam launched a grenade attack on the jeep carrying the army party. Major Mendis was commanding a military unit that was on a wild rampage in the area when Jeyam confronted them. Jeyam himself received a fatal bullet and was killed in the process.

Quotable Quote!

Former Prime Minister and Sri Lanka Freedom Party leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike has criticised President Jayawardene's statement that the people must learn to live with terrorism and said he was conceding that he had "not merely lost a battle, but that is losing the war".

Colombo Report, May 14

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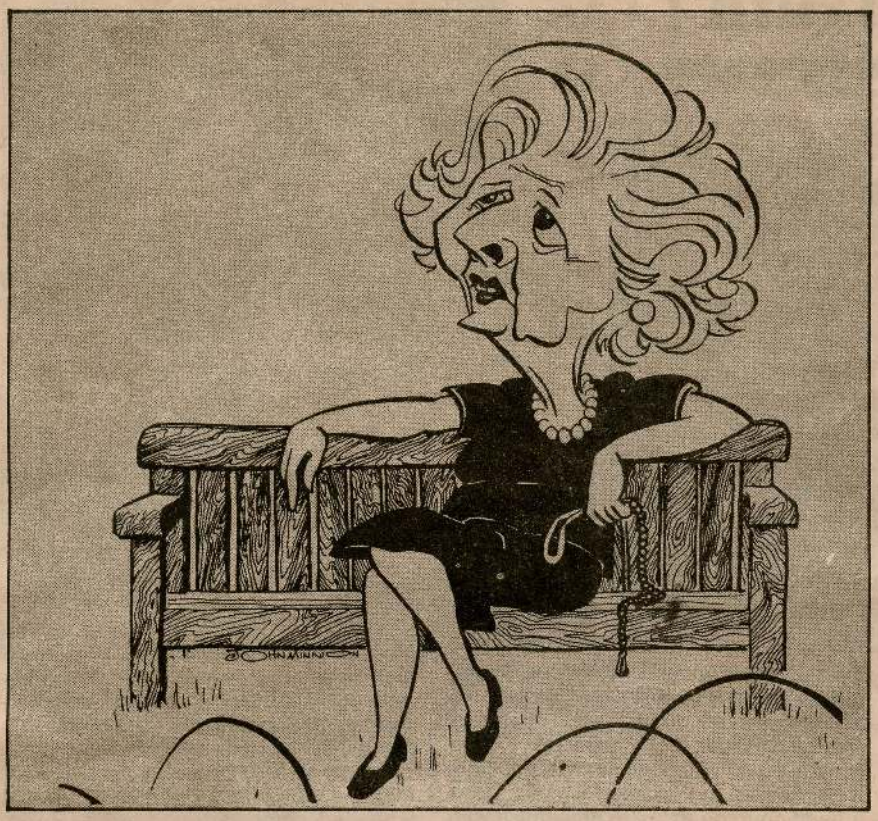
How Margaret Thatcher Caught a cold in Sri Lanka!



How did British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to Sri Lanka go ? She had to make an unceremonious entry through Colombo International airport because only the previous day a bomb had exploded at the rail terminal just outside, making the government cancel the airport formalities. Mrs. Thatcher was whisked away from the airport under tight security by Mahaweli Minister Gamini Dissanayake and Mrs. Dissanayake.

James Mac Manus of the "Daily Telegraph" who accompanied the Prime Minister's party on her Far Eastern tour wrote in the Telegraph of April 15:

"....If Indonesia was the high point of the tour, then the visit to Colombo was the low point.

"Her government hosts arranged ceremonies to commission the Victoria Dam in such a way that the Prime Minister spent almost five hours in temperatures of around 104F without being offered a single drink.

"The poor arrangements in Sri Lanka may have contributed to Mrs. Thatcher's coughing fit which halted her speech to the Parliament in Colombo on Saturday morning."

"Mrs. Thatcher did not see a doctor afterwards, but medicated herself by drinking hot water with lemon and honey."

Michael Hamlyn adds in a despatch to "Times", London, of April 15 1985: "Mrs. Thatcher looked pale as she left Delhi and — to be ungallant — showing every one of her 59 years (her 60th birthday is in October). The trip has not been kind to her health, and her address to the Sri Lanka Parliament on Saturday was halted by coughing which left her calling in a small voice for a glass of water."

Aides said yesterday she was suffering from a cold and a throat infection brought about by constant moves from Sri Lanka's humid outdoor heat to the air-conditioned chill of the luxurious buildings she visited.

Her oppression by Sri Lanka's heat may also have had something to do with a slip of the tongue at her press conference in Kandy, when she confused Singapore, which she had just visited, with Hong Kong, which she had not.

She said as part of her reply to a question about the success of her tour. "We have no bilateral problems with Hong Kong."

Sri Lanka figures largely in her conversations with Mr Gandhi partly because she had just come from there and partly because she was interested to hear of, Mr Gandhi's political problems in inhibiting Sri Lankan separatists in South India.

During her talks with Mr. Jayawardene and his ministers, the subject of British aid to a further dam project was discussed. The new project. Samanalavala. is at about the same state as was the Victoria dam on the Mahaweli river when Britain decided to support it.

The subject was not resolved as British Government departments have still not agreed whether to support such a big project with a high resource cost. Draining money which might more usefuly be spent on less dramatic items.

British contractors of the Mahaweli project, notably the civil engineering consortium led by Balfour Beatty, are putting together a group with French and Japanese companies to fight for the scheme."

RKLaxman in Times of India

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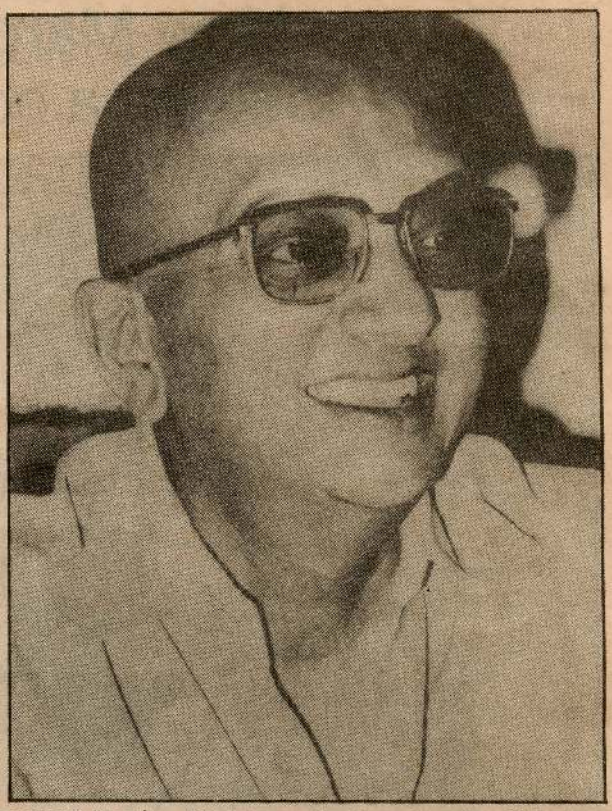
Tamil Travails: The BALD Truth !



Cho. S. Ramasamy is the editor of the Tamil fortnightly satirical magazine "Thuglak". He is a lawyer, actor and has also tried politics without success. Ramasamy however manages to keep himself in the news. Recently it has been the misfortune of Tamils in Sri Lanka who had been enduring endless misfortunes from the year of independence in 1948, that Cho Ramasamy chose to talk about their misfortunes to project himself into public attention once again. He wrote two articles in his own magazine and followed it up with another in English in the columns of the journal PROBE of May 1985 with the obvious motive of driving a wedge between "Indian Tamilians" and "Ceylonese Tamilians" as well as advancing arguments and injecting fears against the to-be-born Tamil Eelam — a clear case of attempted journalistic abortion!

An open reply to Cho Ramasamy

Dear Mr. Cho Ramasamy,

For once, you had been unintentionally funny. In prefacing your second article in "Thuglak", you spoke about your own boldness and courage. You also said OTHER journalists do not have the courage you have. Watching a man throwing his arms behind and vigorously patting his own back — believe us Mr. Ramasamy — is a funny sight! Only comedians do that. Even if you have to pat yourself on the back, should you have to run down fellow journalists, men of your own fraternity ?

O.K., let us for the sake of your ego, grant you the satisfaction of thinking that you are a courageous guy. Does it really need courage to trample on the hopes and ideals of a small nation of 3 million people who are already under the heels of an oppressive government ? A government which in your own words (PROBE INDIA, March 1985) is guilty of: "Massacre, Genocide, brutal killings, butchery." Ninety thousand of them have sought refuge in your country. India's leaders and her people had been large hearted enough to give them not only shelter but hope. A vast majority of the Tamils who are Hindus consider India their spiritual home. In the Tamil imagination, the Mahatma and Sri Ramakrishna are as much Tamil saints as Manickavasagar or Sankara. Their conception of "Punyabhmi" extends from Kathirkamam to Puri and Dwaraka. Does it need courage to fail to empathise with these people ? Does it need courage to stab them in their back when they are fighting for sheer survival in the land of their birth ? Does it really need courage Mr. Ramasamy to drive a wedge between "Indian Tamilians" and "Ceylonese Tamilians" at this hour of crisis when they are both facing the same enemy and same oppression ?

You say: "In India, whenever the Sri Lankan issue is discussed, the Tamil-speaking people living on the island are referred to as one people..." How sensible of the people of India, and full marks for them! But you Mr. Clever, you don't want the people of India to think that all Tamils are basically same. It would be like saying that all Tamilnadu Tamils are not the same, although they speak the same language and practise the same religion, that there are Brahmins and non-Brahmins, Nadars and Maravar, that all Brahmins are not the same, that Iyers look down upon the Iyengars and that they all live in different parts of Tamilnadu, and that their perceptions are different... Of course, of course, Mr. Ramasamy, no society is exactly homogenous, not even President Jayawardene's Sinhala society. Do you know that there are two main strands of Sinhalese, the Low-Country Sinhalese and the Kandyan Sinhalese (Jayawarwardene belongs to the former and Mrs. Bandaranaike belongs to the latter); that there are several castes and sub-castes; that it is the Sinhala Buddhist Goigamas who had since independence monopolised power ? So what ? Are we "Indian Tamilians" or "Ceylonese Tamilians" aking a song and dance about it ? No. Mr. Ramasamy, the name for this is not Courage. It is a form of exhibitionism, total perversity.

Do you need courage to advocate virtual inaction on the part of India in the face of what you yourself call "massacre, genocide, brutal killings, butchery etc". It is the man who advocates a decisive course of action who needs courage. You recommend "Diplomacy of the most dynamic variety" as the only solution! Since July 1983, G. Parthasarathi has been engaged in diplomacy. The butchery has been going on, has it not ? You don't think G.P. is capable of "diplomacy of the most dynamic variety" ? You dont think Romesh Bhandari is capable of it either, is it what you are driving at ? You sound like a doctor who has correctly diagnosed the disease as one that calls for operative surgery and then goes and recommends asplrin of "the most dynamic variety" as the cure! Your mental block surfaces only at that point. How do you account for it, Mr. Ramasamy ? Has DMK leader Karunanidhi's open advocacy of Thamil Eelam as the only solution disturbing your mental vision ? ▶

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If you really accept the Ceylon government's allegation that there are training camps for Tamil militants in India, you should have the courage to come out openly and say that, even if the accusation is "religiously denied by the Indian government" as you put it. After all, India (unlike Sri Lanka) is an open, free, democratic society, where newspapermen like you have perfect freedom to be as irresponsible as you like. So why do you come out with the innuendo: "The denials are faithfully reported by the Press and the reports are patriotically believed by the people..." Given all the freedom, don't you have the courage to be open about it? So what is this courage you had been talking about ?

Of course, as we all know, it does not need courage to sit safely in Tamilnadu and talk of "genocide and butchery" in Sri Lanka. Try saying that on a visit to Jayawardene's little island ? Well, THAT certainly would call for courage. But you wouldn't dare because your "best bet" for a negotiated settlement, President Jayawardene will lock you up in Welikade jail, the same what he did for PTI correspondent Krishnan Anand.

So much for the subject of courage Mr. Ramasamy; now let's get on to other subjects. You said: "The attitude of indifference to the plight of the Indian Tamilians in Sri Lanka is somewhat surprising... they have better claims for Indian concern than their Ceylonese counterparts..."

O.K. Mr. Ramasamy let's forget the sufferings of the "Ceylonese Tamilians". What have YOU done to focus the sufferings of the "Indian Tamilians" for the past thirty seven years ? Were you in deep slumber when a Sinhalese government (of which Jayawardene was a member) decitizenised virtually the entire "Indian Tamilians" of over one million in 1948? Do you know that a "Ceylonese Tamilian", the late Professor C. Suntharalingam who was Minister of Commerce and Trade in the government was sacked for opposing that law against the "Indian Tamilians" ? Do you know that the late respected "Ceylonese Tamilian" leader. S.J.V. Chelvanayakam walked out of the leading Tamil party — the All Ceylon Tamil Congress, precisely on that issue and formed the Federal Party ? Do you know that in an effort to unite all Tamils under one banner, Mr. S. Thondaman was offered the post of Joint President of the Tamil United Liberation Front and he accepted it ? Where were you when the "Indian Tamilians" were chased out of estates, robbed of their meagre belongings and left destitute by Jayawardene's hoodlums, and when thousands of them were settled in the Vavuniya, Kilinochchi and Trincomalee districts by "Ceylonese Tamilian" organisations like Gandhiyam and Tamil Refugee Rehabilitation Organisation ? Where were you Mr. Ramasamy when Gandhiyam leader Dr. Rajasundaram was killed inside the Welikade jail and when Jayawardene's armed forces set fire to these Indian Tamilians' huts and homes and cattle and chased them from their new settlements ? Are you aware Mr. Ramasamy that thousands of "Indian Tamilians" who are repatriates under the Srima-Shastri Pact are today stranded in Sri Lanka without jobs, some of them living on the savings they were permitted to bring over to India but who are unable to come over to India because at President Jayawardene's wish, the Talaimannar-Rameswaram ferry has been indefinitely suspended ? DO you expect them to fly here by Indian Airlines or Air Lanka ? Have you showed your concern by exposing official callousness on this matter ? No Mr. Ramasamy, please drop your pose. You are not concerned about the fate of EITHER the "Indian Tamilians" or the "Ceylonese Tamilians" You are only trying to use the "Indian Tamilian" issue to beat the "Ceylonese Tamilians". Your inner motivations reveal a triumph of hypocrisy over courage!

Incidentally, Mr. Ramasamy, you have tossed some careless falsehoods in the course of your mala fide exercise. For example, you talk of "more than 15 liberation groups" under the common name of Liberation Tigers. Can you name the 15 and mention the names of the leaders, because we are also interested. You seem to be smarter than even the Indian Intelligence because even they are also unable to count over eight, including two or three small, negligible ones! Publish the answer in "Thuglak" Mr. Cho, we are waiting anxiously.

"The Tigers believe in violence", you say. Does it mean that President Jayawardene does not believe in violence ? Or does it mean that the Tigers believe in violence for the mere sake of violence ? When did violence begin in Ceylon ? Who were the perpetrators of that violence ? Mr. Ramasamy, we Tamils, have been the victims of Sinhala mob violence in our country since 1956! There were major anti-Tamil riots in 1958. To give you just one sample of the violence in that year:— A Sinhala Buddhist mob entered the Panadura Sivan Temple in the southern coast of Sri Lanka, pulled out the officiating Brahmin priest, poured petrol over him and "burnt him to a cinder", as a courageous Sinhala journalist Tarzie Vittachi chronicled in his book EMERGENCY '58 (Andre Deutsch, London) Well, that was TWENTY SEVEN years ago Mr. Ramasamy, and we Tamils are still at the receiving end of violence in the year of our Lord 1985, not only from Sinhala mobs but Sinhala armed forces, not only in the south where we are in a minority but in the north and east where we are in a majority in our traditional home-lands. For twenty seven years we put up with violence, and an apathetic world and unhelpful journalists like you left us to our fate, and now when getting tired of being slaughtered and living as refugees in our own country, some of our youths suddenly discovered that only through guns they can defend the lives and propewrty of our people, and only by ruling ourselves we can ensure our safety and security, you suddenly find that the Tigers believe in violence" ! Do you realise you are yourself doing violence to history, violence to Truth and right understanding ? Do you realise the enormous sense of self-sacrifice that had impelled the Tigers to violence ? Thousands of them in the prime of youth, giving up their parents and brothers and sisters and homes and their future, and prepared to pay the supreme sacrifice — their lives — for the cause of defending the lives of their people, the chastity of their sisters and mothers and the honour of their identity — what does it make them in your arid dictionary, Mr. Ramasamy — mere purveyors of violence ? Have you sacrificed your soul for the sake of "stunt" penmanship ?

You say: "Jayawardene with all his obstinacy, thus becomes the best bet for those who prefer a negotiated settlement...". What you are really meaning is that Jayawardene is the "best bet" to prevent the "division of Sri Lanka"! Well, if you cannot see the obvious fact that Jayawardene is pushing the island headlong towards a "division", we cannot make you see straight. Anyway the "division" that you speak of, is already there, de facto What the Tamils are fighting for is a de jure division. that point of time when the world would have to accept that the Tamils are entitled to rule themselves in their own land, and that the Tamils are jolly well capable of doing that.

It is we Tamils who gave the island of Ceylon its stability Mr. Ramasamy; the plantation Tamils stabilised the economy by their sweat, and the indigenous Tamils gave the stability to the entire infrastructure of government and administration by their job ethic and industry and dependability. From a prosperous island-nation in the whole of Asia, Ceylon has been slipping into instability ever since Tamils came to be degraded to second class citizenship. If some British thought giving freedom to India would only fragment the country and chaos would result and if you think that there would be no peace in the future Eelam, well, on the honoured principle that each man is entitled to have his own bad dreams, you are entitled to yours, Mr. Cho. Anyway, is there peace in the, present Eelam, Mr. Cho ?

Once you have worked out a negotiated settlement to the problem after using "diplomacy of the most dynamic variety" on President Jayawardene, will you give us a tinkle to Thamil Eelam and let us know Mr. Ramasamy. You will find our telephone listed in the Eelam directory. Thank you.

yours in the name of courage,

S. Sivanayagam

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Tamils in Jaffna rejoice over raid, says GAMINI NAVARATNE

The Times of India: April 14, 1985

For the first time in many months, there was jubilation in this northern city of Sri Lanka populated by the ethnic Tamils. The Tamil guerillas fighting for a separate state called "Eelam", had captured the main police station just two days before the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher's scheduled visit to the island republic amidst mounting protests calling on her to dissociate herself from the repressive regime.

I was the first correspondent to visit the scene of attack at dawn on Thursday. I saw people gathering in knots outside their homes and street corners discussing the latest exploits of the guerillas who have now succeeded in bringing the civil and military administration in Jaffna, the capital of northern Sri Lanka, to a virtual halt by their repeated attacks on the state machinery.

Of course, there was apprehension that as in the past the security forces might unleash reprisals on the civilian population but the people were heartened by the fact that the guerillas stood guard in the city to take on the security forces.

The city was swarming with young guerillas carrying assault rifles, rocket launchers and other military gear. They directed the traffic and advised people in vulnerable areas, particularly close to police stations, to evacuate to safer places. Men, women and children carrying bags laden with their precious belonging were seen leaving in a steady stream.

When I reached the flattened police headquarters at Jaffna, I saw army personnel digging in the debris to recover bodies. On the previous night about 200 guerillas had arrived in four mini-buses and dozens of motorbikes and attacked the station with rockets before over-running it after four hours of fighting. Over 100 policemen were known to have been inside the headquarters at the time but most of them fled to the adjacent police station when the attack started.

No reliable figures of casualties were available from either side but it is believed hat at least 10 policemen were taken hostage by the guerillas. Official statements said four policemen and 20 guerillas had been killed in the attack.

To prevent the military from coming to the rescue, the guerillas had laid land mines along the road leading out of Jaffna's main army camp at Gurunagar, about a mile away, and also kept firing at the camp. The soldiers returned the fire but did not venture out of the camp till dawn.

The Jaffna police station was one of three remaining in the peninsula. The others are at Valvettiturai and Point Pedro. About a score of others had closed down after guerilla attacks.

The attack and smothering of the Jaffna police headquarters has boosted the militants' morale particularly against the background of the security forces training by the Israeli secret service. Mossad, the Britain's S.A.S.

The jubilation in the militant camp arising from their latest victory has led moderates in the northern province to believe that the time has come for the Jayewardene government to settle for serious negotiations with the guerilla leaders to end the conflict. They feel that with India also opposed to a division of the country as envisaged by the "Eelamists," the guerillas will be willing to settle for the alternative regional autonomy.

It is felt that. the president, Mr. Jayewardene, in recent months has appeared to be willing to accept the inevitable but not so the Buddhist clergy which wields considerable influence in this predominantly Buddhist country. The monks are opposed to any meaningful devolution of state power because they fear it would inevitably lead to the establishment of a separate state and eventual link-up with the Tamils in South India and pose a threat to the Sinhalese as in the ancient past. It was the Buddhist opposition that led to the collapse of the all-party talks convened by Mr Jayewardene to find a solution to the ethnic problem.

Observers here feel that the attack on the Jaffna police headquarters should be an eye-opener to the Buddhist clergy that the Sinhalese cannot continue their hegemoney over the Tamils and that it is time they agreed to grant the ethnics a measure of self-rule in their predominant territories. The alternative, in their belief, is civil war between the two communities, possibly leading to foreign intervention.

Jaffna court orders repairing of captured Indian boat

The Jaffna High Court has ordered the District Fisheries Extension Officer to repair an Indian fishing boat, seized by the Sri Lankan Navy two years ago.

The court order followed an application by the counsel for the Indian High Commission, Mr. R. Balasubramaniam, stating that the owner was unable to take charge of the boat although the court had ordered its release in February after the Attorney-General dropped the charge of fishing in the island's territorial waters.

It was among the four Indian boats seized between December and February 1984.

The court fixed April 29 to examine if the Fisheries Department official had carried out its order.

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WHY NOT COME TO GRIPS AT HOME INSTEAD OF SEEKING SUCCOUR ABROAD ?

The Statesman,
New Delhi 22nd April 1985

While President Jayewardene's dilemma is understandable Sri Lanka's long-term interests would be better served if he came to grips with the problem at home instead of seeking succour abroad. Even New Delhi's involvement creates considerable embarrassment for the bilateral relationship by appearing to project the Indian Government as champion of one of the parties in a dispute in a foreign country: that it became unavoidable is a measure of the United National Party's political failure and of Colombo's inability to inspire confidence among Sri Lanka Tamils or prevent them from taking their problems across the Palk Straits. If true, the accusation of Palestinian help for the Eelam guerrillas would have merited the strongest condemnation; but it became less inexcustable when Sri Lanka enlisted the Israeli secret service and British commandos to build up a special task force to suppress Tamil dissent. Colombo's subsequent efforts to buy arms abroad; notably in Britain and the USA, were not conspicuously successful; but setbacks do not seem to have persuaded the Sri Lanka President to desist from trying to seek international help, ignoring not only the implications for regional peace but also the offence to Indian Ocean peace zone concept.

The irony is that Mr. Romesh Bhandari apparently returned from Colombo convinced that President Jayewardene was prepared to abrogate the constitutional amendment which disqualifies Tamil United Liberation Front M.P.s, release detainees and offer a fresh package. Either the Foreign Secretary was misled, or the President had changed his mind by the time Mrs Thatcher visited Colombo when he not only launched into an intemperate attack against India but also reportedly tried to activate a 1947 defence agreement between Sri Lanka and Britain by appearing to invite British troups to "sustain democracy" in the island. This is not the first time that such an unrealistic appeal has been made. A similar request was addressed in July 1983 to Britain, the USA, Pakistan and Bangladesh but naturally evoked no response; last year too. President Jayewardene sought to remind Britain of its "military obligaions" under an archaic arrangement that was drawn up when objective conditions in both countries, as well as in the world, were vastly different, and which has never been activated.

Predictably, Mrs Thatcher, who is far more interested in commercial prospects than in illusions of a global role, not only turned down the implied plea but also emphatically denounced any suggestion of a military solution. Though she also condemned terrorism, her meeting with a prominent TULF leader can have left Colombo in no doubt of her assessment of the situation. Perhaps this explains the conciliatory message the President Jayewardene reportedly sent through her to Mr Rajiv Gandhi; but his statements on the ethnic crisis have so often contradicted each other, especially in recent weeks, that there may not be enough reason to suppose that the notion of using imported force has been given up. It may have to be abandoned in the absence of backers, but the evidence indicates that Sri Lanka is still buying arms abroad on a commercial basis. Colombo's right to self-defence is, of course, indisputable, but the only challenge it faces is from a section of its own people who can legimately complain of being denied social, economic and political justice. Meanwhile, the recent Tamil-Muslim riots, which may well owe something to UNP instigation, will probably strengthen the Government's refusal to offer substantive concessions and to treat the problem as a rebellion. The unfortunate and wholly unnecessary impression created is of a President who feels obliged to run from pillar to post abroad simply because his party cannot bring itself to grant equal citizenship to the ethnic minority at home. ■

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Tamilnadu memorandum to Prime Minister Rajiv

Hindu April 24, 1985

Refugee problem

"Over the years, the Sri Lankan Tamils have been systematically stripped of their citizenship and linguistic rights by the Government. Their opportunities to pursue their rightful education, vocation and government employment have been ruthlessly curtailed. A stage has come now where even their very existence is being threatened. The acts of violence against the innocent and hapless Tamils that were perpetrated by groups of individuals have grown into a situation of organised and uncontrolled violence by the army and the police. It is in this situation that they are leaving their ancient homeland and their means of living and pouring into India as penniless refugees day after day. Nearly 20,000 persons have come as destitute refugees in the last three months. From July 1983 nearly 90,000 refugees have landed in India.

"With a view to stopping any further exodus of such refugees into Indian and to enable even the present ones to go back to their homes with safety and honour, this delegation requests that the Government of India insist that the Sri Lankan army and commando forces of the police be immediately withdrawn from the Tamils' homelands; that the colonisation of these Tamil areas by Sinhalese civilians who have been armed, trained and aided by the Government should be stopped forthwith; that the various prohibitions imposed on the fishermen of Sri Lanka like a prohibited fishing zones and prohibited timings for fishing in the western, northern and eastern waters be removed.

Organised violence

"As a result of the direct actions taken by the Sri Lankan Government during the last 35 years, the minority Tamils have had their civil and political rights forcibly taken away. Even then the Tamils have always resorted to a non-violent approach to get back these rights for a long time. Despite this, the direct and indirect acts of violence by the Sri Lankan army and police against the Tamils have continued unabated and these are the basic causes for the emergence of militancy on the part of the Tamils in their struggle to save their honour and protect their lives. Even though the Sri Lankan army had indulged in untold atrocities it must be remembered that not even a single Sinhalese citizen has been harmed by the Tamils.

"It is, therefore, not proper to equate the opposition of the Sri Lankan Tamils with the violence unleashed by the army and police of a nation on their hapless citizens. The attempts of the Sri Lankan Government to camouflage organised or connived violence and dub the Tamils fighting to save their lives and honour as 'terrorists' should be exposed to the people of the various countries and their governments. The all-party delegation would, therefore, plead with the Prime Minister that all diplomatic and other steps be taken and send, if necessary, a high-power delegation, to mobilise international opinion against the genocide in Sri Lanka.

Summit urged

"Instead of seeking a military solution to the problem, the Sri Lankan Government should earnestly come forward to withdraw its army from the areas inhabited by Tamils, and seek a viable political solution assuring safety and legitimate rights to the Tamils as full and equal citizens so that people of Sri Lanka can live together in peace and harmony. "The all-party delegation hopes and trusts that towards finding such a political solution acceptable to the Sri Lankan Tamils, the Primie Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, would take all steps including his meeting with the Sri Lankan President, Mr. J.R. Jayewardene, immediately on a time-bound programme as, otherwise, any further delay could be detrimental to the interests of both the countries". ■

Eelam issue hots up in Tamilnadu

DMK leader Karunanidhi's pointed public espousal of the Tamil Eelam demand has brought a qualitative change in thinking on the problem of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. From talk of mere protection to Tamils, the controversy has now extended to the question of Eelam as the only solution to the problem. DMK chief Karunanidhi has now taken the battle into the CPI (M) camp.

Talking to newsmen in Madras, Karunanidhi quoted Karl Marx against the foremost Marxist theoretician of the CPI (M) — E.M.S. Namboodiripad! The Marxist leader had earlier questioned the DMK sponsorship of the Tamil Eelam demand. Karunanidhi said the nationality question was a vital one in Marxist philosophy. If two nationalities found it impossible to co-exist in honour, the best thing for them would be to separate and live as different nation states. Karl Marx, he said had supported the Irish national issue in the 19th century. Marx had supported the Irish demand for total independence from the united government of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Karunanidhi said the DMK was more faithful to Marxism than the Marxist party. He was surprised that such an eminent Marxist idealogue like EMS should have forgotten the teachings of Karl Marx.

Meanwhile, Tamilnadu Agriculture Minister Kalimuthu of the AIADMK praised the Centre for recognising PLO and granting diplomatic status to SWAPO but regretted that the Centre had failed to take note of the problems faced by Tamils in Sri Lanka. "The entire world would mock at us if we support liberation struggles all over the world but fail to take note of a similar struggle in our neighbourhood".

M. KARUNANIDHI:

Minister Kalimuthu also announced in Madurai that a one-day conference to focus the attention of the people for the establishment of Tamil Eelam would be held there on July 14. He said constructive activities relating to the liberation of Eelam would be chalked out at the conference.

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March Diary:

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

March 1:	Killinochchi police station attacked. At least 40 policemen, soldiers, killed according to official sources of the EPRLF whose military wing, People's Liberation Army was responsible for the attack. Following massive reprisals by government forces, over 500 people in the area flee their homes in panic. UNI report says 9 houses, 4 shops and 2 temples damaged in firing from Air Force helicopters. At Rameswaram 400 more Tamil refugees arrive by boats. Refugee registration authorities say that arrivals since February 5th had crossed 12,000 mark. Sri Lanka government cancels the annual festival of St. Antony's Church on Kachchativu Island. Sri Lanka announces plan to relax fishing ban in northern territorial waters. In Washington, US deputy assistant secretary Robert Peck warns Sri Lanka government that if it goes ahead with its plan to settle Sinhalese in traditional Tamil areas it would result in "hardening of Tamil attitudes and lead to even greater violence".
March 3:	In Colombo, Sri Lanka government rejects G. Parthasarathi as mediator. Director of the United States information agency, Charles Z. Wick arrives in Colombo in connection with expansion of Voice of America relay station at Iranawila. OXFAM, the international aid agency to contribute Rs. 10 lakh towards rehabilitation of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in India. Meanwhile with the arrival of 36 boats carrying 322 families consisting of 1242 members at Rameswaram the total number touches 13,242.. In Colombo, government claims killing of EPRLF "Provincial Leader Samiththamby Vadivel" and three of his "terrorist colleagues".
March 4:	In Madras, over 100 Indian advocates demonstrate in front of Sri Lanka Deputy High commission protesting against violence in Sri Lanka . Colombo report says a new passenger ferry service between Colombo and Tuticorin will replace the earlier Talaimannar — Rameswaram service. Sri Lanka navy claims it has prevented 247 Sri Lankan Tamils from fleeing to India during the last four days.
March 5:	Secretary General of TULF A. Amirthalingam appeals to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatchar to stop aiding Sri Lanka either directly or indirectly in its excesses against innocent Tamils. In Colombo, President Jeyawardene says there could not be a political solution to the ethnic problem "until there was a cessation in terrorist activities". Sri Lankan naval personnel intercept five Indian fishing boats in Indian waters off Rameswaram and beat up 25 fishermen. One fishermen reported missing.
March 6:	In Colombo, government claims killing ten Tamil militants and injuring others in combing operation at Karaveddi near Point Pedro.
March 9:	In Geneva, Secretary General of the International Commission of Jurists Nial McDermot calls for end of army killing of Tamils. He tells the UN Human Rights Commission that a political solution of the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka can only be found if the government puts an end to the indiscriminate killing of civilians by security forces.
March 11:	An appreciable drop in the influx of Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka reported from Rameswaram. In Colombo Sri Lanka government announces plans to expand its staff in missions in India, West Germany, Great Britain, France, US and Switzerland "to combat hostile propaganda".

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March Diary:

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

March 12:	In Colombo, Sri Lanka cabinet decides to do feasibility study on constructing alternative airport near Trincomalee. The study to cost US $ 290 Thousand would be done by International Boeing Aero Systems of the United States.
March 13:	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam launch a 3 a.m. attack on the Madawachchiya police station in the heart of the Sinhala area. Nine police commandos killed. Madawachchiya Railway station also attacked. Tamil Nadu government to seek scraping of the Indo-Sri Lanka Kachchaitivu agreement, according to Finance Minister V.R. Nedunchelian. In Geneva, India expresses "deep dismay" at Sri Lanka government statement before UN Human Rights Commission that New Delhi was exaggerating the figures of Tamil refugees. In Madras, plantation Tamil leader Thondaman says in interview with HINDU: 'Come what may, Tamils in Sri Lanka should not desert their homes and become refugees in India. They should stay on and frustrate the evil designs of the Sinhalese to liquidate the Tamil race.'
March 14:	In New Delhi, Opposition members in the Rajya Sabha make a strong plea to the government to take firm action to check the persecution of Tamils in Sri Lanka.
March 15:	Opposition in Sri Lanka parliament to move a vote of no-confidence against Minister Thondaman. In Colombo, the Information Ministry says the train services at the Madawachchiya Railway station are still suspended, following the attack on the station by liberation Tigers.
March 17:	Tamil Nadu government announces proposals to convene an all-party meeting to discuss possible steps to slove the Sri Lanka Tamil issue. Three Jaffna businessmen kidnapped by unknown men and ransom notes delivered to their relatives. In Colombo, Minister Lalith Athulathmudali says that if the people of the north want more powers to govern themselves they must drop the demand for a separate state!
March 18:	Sri Lanka government claims in Colombo that security forces have arrested 8 women partisans in Trincomallee in the Eastern province. Fisheries Minister Festus Perera says that 40 thousand fishermen affected by the ban on fishing on northern waters would be allowed to fish from next week for certain hours of the day under the supervision of the navy.
March 19:	3,000 houses to be constructed at Mandapam for Sri Lanka Tamil refugees at a cost of Rs. 6 crore, according to Ramanathapuram District Collector Gurumurthy. Sri Lanka Prime Minister again accuses India of harbouring "terrorists". News reach Madras that a Sri Lankan Air Force helicopter was shot down yesterday on the northern coast off Nagerkovil by Liberation Tigers. An LTTE release says that guerillas were on a training exercise on the sea coast when two helicopters and two sea planes launched a sudden attack on a Tiger gun boat. The Tigers opened fire from machine guns and one copter crashed down in flames.
March 20:	In Colombo, Ministry of National Security announces that about 200 Tamil youths, detained as guerilla suspects, at Boosa camp are to be freed. Investigations would be made about another 400 housed there, who if proved innocent, would also be released. Denying that the helicopter off Nagerkovil was shot down, National Security Minister says it was only "slightly damaged".
March 21:	TULF leader Amirthalingam ordered a week's rest in Madras at private nursing home after he felt giddy and fainted while addressign a meeting at Trichy yesterday. In Colombo, army volunteer forces mobilised for duty.

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March Diary:

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

March 22:	Sri Lankan parliament extends nationwide state of emergency for another month. Banking made an essential service under emergency regulations.
March 23:	Karnataka Chief Minister Ramakrishna Hegde urges Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to convene a conference of Southern Chief Ministers to discuss the Sri Lankan Tamils' problem. In Colombo, Prime Minister Premadasa says in Parliament: "If the violence by Tamil militants is stopped tomorrow, five minutes later the army will return to the barracks." In Jaffna, armed forces shoot at a moving van and later government claims that 7 separatists were killed in a gun battle. The present lull in violence in Sri Lanka augurs well for the visit of Foreign Secretary Romesh Bandari who goes to Colombo tomorrow, writes G.K. Reddy in the Hindu.
March 24:	In Madras at a large rally at the Marina, DMK President M. Karunanidhy announces campaign of direct action beginning from April 29th if the Indian government did not take positive steps to solve the Sri Lankan Tamils problem. Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bandari arrives in Colombo by late night flight to begin talks with Sri Lankan leaders.
March 25:	Romesh Bandari has a 90-minute talk with President Jeyawardene at Inginimitiya about 125 km north of Colombo, with no aides present. Later President Jayawardene tells public rally that "The government was willing to grant an amnesty to terrorists who were willing to lay down their arms and negotiate a settlement.
March 26:	Romesh Bandari has separate talks with 4 Sri Lankan Ministers Lalith Athulathmudali, Prime Minister Premadasa, Thondaman and K.W. Devanayagam. In Jaffna 3 traders kidnapped last week by unknown men are released unharmed.
March 27:	In Colombo Sri Lanka government issues a communique at the end of Romesh Bandari's visit which states that it was agreed both by Sri Lanka, and India that "a cessation of all acts of violence" was a first step to create conducive atmosphere for the resumption of the political dialogue to resolve the ethnic problem. The communique also said that the solution should be within the framework of the "Unity, sovereignty and Integrity" of Sri Lanka. In the Lok Sabha in New Delhi the Minister of State for Home, Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha States that more than 85,000 Tamil refugees have arrived from Sri Lanka since the ethnic violence of July 1983. Indian Coast guard patrol boat intercepts a high speed plastic boat off Mandapam and seizes sub machine guns, 9 mm rifles made in England and grenades. Police say the two men on boat suspected to be Tamil militants were handed over to the Mandapam Police.
March 28:	The Dutch government announces at the Hague that 22 million marks would be provided over the next few years to help Tamils granted asylum in the Netherlands. An estimated 2500 Tamils are already in the country. New Delhi circles take note of concern in Tamil Nadu over a possible shift in India's policy on the Sri Lankan Tamil question.
March 29:	About 25 MP's in New Delhi appeal for "direct intervention, if need be" by India to protect Sri Lanka Tamils. Minister of State for External Affairs, Khurshie Alam Khan says in the Rajya Sabha that there was no change in India's stand on the position of Tamils in Sri Lanka.
March 30:	Prominent Indian citizens sign a joint appeal for a "peaceful and just solution" of the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka.

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March April Diary

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

March 30:	President Jayawardene on a visit to Islamabad talks of his determinations to bring terrorism under control and expresses his governments resolve to find a peaceful and political solution to the ethnic problem. 40 Tamil youths including plantation workers released from Boosa military camp. In Washington it is announced that prominent Human Rights activists in US and West Europe plan to publicise Human Rights violations against Tamils.
March 31:	In Colombo, government claims killing of six suspected Tamil militants on the East coast by police commandos. Sri Lanka welcomes news of the reported seizure by Indian Coast Guard of boat carrying suspected Tamil separatists. A government source said "This is a sign that the Indian attitude to Tamil terrorists operating out of Tamil Nadu is changing..." Concern in Colombo over sharp fall in tea prices.
April 1:	Annual report of Indian External Affairs Ministry for 1984-85 released in New Delhi today expresses India's deep concern at continued violence against Tamils in Sri Lanka, the induction of foreign security and intelligence organisations and "totally baseless accusations" made by Colombo about Indian support for so-called "Tamil Militants".
April 2:	All Air Lanka flight stations abroad asked to maintain maximum alert for possible hijack of Colombo bound aircraft, alert to be effective till end of month. In Thanjavur, DMK President Karunanidhi says, continued indifferences of the government of India to the genocide of Sri Lankan Tamils may force the DMK to revive separate state demand for Tamil Nadu. In Madras all-party meeting convened by Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran ends inconclusively. Madras Customs seize large quantity of arms and ammunition concealed in a container when it was being cleared at the harbour. The container, according to a report was as big as a train wagon and had hundreds of sten guns, rifles and other weapons. In Colombo it is decided to vest in the government all properties belonging to Sinhalese in the Jaffna district.
April 3:	Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G.R. to lead all-party delegation to meet Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi to request firm measures for protecting lives and properties of Sri Lanka Tamils. In Chilaw about 80 kms north west of Colombo, Police arrest 3 Tamil youths who wanted to sing Hymns at a Roman Catholic Church in Tamil when the priest wanted the congregation to sing in Sinhala. A Colombo report says that Sri Lanka's sea food exports have declined dramatically as a result of the establishment of surveillance zone in north Sri Lanka.
April 4:	Nine Sri Lanka Police Commandos killed in the eastern province, when a jeep in which they were travelling was blasted by a land mine. Also killed were 3 Police informers who were in the same jeep. Ten other Policemen injured in a second incident. Minister for Tourism Dr. Anandatissa de Alwis says certain areas in the troubled eastern coast were no longer safe for tourists. In Pondichcheri, Janatha and DMK members walk out from the assembly in protest against the Speaker's ruling disallowing an adjournment motion on the sufferings of Sri Lanka Tamils to be moved by the Janata Party. In Colombo, Police shoot at and kill a motorcyclist who disobeyed orders to stop near Colombo airport. The incident occured after Police took into custody 26 Tamil youths deported from Italy.
April 5:	In Singapore, Sri Lanka Prime Minister Premadasa says India would have to withdraw its "patronage" of Tamil partisans if it was keen to find a solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. In Colombo, government denies that 30 Tamil youths extradited from Italy were tortured. They were only detained for questioning the government said.

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April Diary

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

	General Secretary of the Sri Lanka Plantation Workers' Congress speaking at a Press Conference in Tiruchi says, that in any talks on Sri Lankan Tamils held by the government the various Tamil Eelam Liberation Groups should also be invited. He said a confederation of all Liberation Organisations should be formed and this should be recognised like the Palestinian Liberation Organisation.
April 6:	1800 Sri Lankans had sought asylum in West Berlin during the first three months of this year. According to a West Berlin report, most of them reached West Berlin via East Berlin. In Colombo, security officials say that separatist guerillas staged a midnight attack on main army camp and police headquarters in the north, but the attack was repulsed. An inventory of the arms and ammunition seized at Madras harbour by customs has revealed that the boxes contained 1400 rifles of a 1945 model used in World War II, 300 sten guns, 5 wireless sets of Japanese origin and an electronic radio set with amplifier among other items.
April 8:	In Madras, DMK President Karunanidhi says he will be meeting Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his own to make representations on the problem facing Sri Lanka Tamils. Colombo news paper "The Island" reports that the government is planning a fresh initiative aimed at de-escalation of violence in the north and east. It reports a package deal to the TULF as well as Tamil militants, which would include revision of the sixth amendment, an offer of a broad amity, the release of detenus under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the confinement of the army to barracks in Tamil speaking areas. In Madras, TULF leaders say, that they are completely in the dark about these proposals. In the Lok Sabha, DMK and AIADMK members criticise Indian government attitude towards the problem of Sri Lanka Tamils.
April 9:	In Colombo, National Security Minister claims that at least four Tamil militants were killed in a shoot-out near an army camp in the north. In Batticaloa, the bullet-riddled body of a police officer is discovered.
April 10:	All four active Tamil Liberation groups — Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), Eelam Revolutionary Organisation (EROS), and Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) sign agreement to function as a united common front. The agreement was signed by V. Prabakaran on behalf of LTTE, Sri Sabaratnam on behalf of TELO, K. Padmanabha on behalf of EPRLF, and Balakumar and Shankar on behalf of EROS. The four Organisations will coordinate their activities and take joint action to secure the common goal of an independent sovereign Socialist Tamil Eelam. Minister Thondaman addressing a rally in Ragala asks the Jayawardene government to work out "a just solution" to the ethnic problem without waiting for cessation of violence. "Why should we make terrorism an excuse to delay a reasonable political solution" he asks. Government announces lifting of curfew in the north on April 12th as a concession for Sinhalese and Tamil New year. One woman was killed and 4 railway employees injured in a bomb blast at Katunayake rail station outside Colombo International Airport a day before the scheduled arrival of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. About 250 Sri Lankan girls have joined the Sri Lankan army according to a Xinhua report from Colombo. They have been given military training except in the use of weapons, the report said. Almost as if to celebrate the formation of the United Front of all active Liberation groups, Liberation Tigers storm the well-fortified Jaffna Police station using rocket launchers grenade propellers, and machine guns. Following fighting for over three hours, several Policemen escape into the near-by Dutch fort premises. The Tigers had earlier blasted three culverts preventing army men from the Gurunagar army camp from reaching the scene of fighting. (See full report elsewhere in this issue). Prime Minister Premadasa leaves for Japan and Jamaica 12 hours before British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's arrival.

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April Diary

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam :

April 11 :	Mrs. Thatcher arrives in Colombo under tight security.
April 12 :	Speaking in Kandy, Mrs. Thatcher while rejecting terrorism as a means of redressing grievances, said, a military solution was also not the answer to solve problems. She said the people turn to bullets only when they could not get their rights through the ballot. Speaking at a banquet in honour of Mrs. Thatcher, President Jayawardene questions the nature of the friendship India has towards Sri Lanka.
April 13 :	Speaking at banquet in Colombo hosted for Mrs. Thatcher, President Jayawardene makes implicit request for the stationing of British troops in Sri Lanka. Earlier, former TULF MP Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam has a meeting with Mrs. Thatcher. Arriving in New Delhi, Mrs. Thatcher discusses the Sri Lanka problem with Rajiv Gandhi.
April 14 :	Colombo radio claims capture of 33 persons described as "terrorists coming from India" by Sri Lanka navy. It also said eight "terrorists" were killed in Akkaripattu. Indian government is astonished, almost aghast at President Jayawardene's virtual request for British troops to be stationed in Sri Lanka, according to a New Delhi report. At Rameswaram about 2 dozen persons led by Dr. T.R. Janardhanam, President of the world Tamil youth federation begin a 650 km march to Madras "to condemn atrocities committed by Sri Lankan government on Tamils". In London, British Parliamentary reports indicts Sri Lankan army with frequent murder of civilians and torture of innocent persons. Britain is unlikely to agree to any Sri Lankan request for stationing its troops in the Island accordi9ng to a London report. Poiice Commandos provoke violence in east Sri Lanka between Tamils and Tamil-speaking Muslims. 47 People including some Police Commandos are killed at Karaitivu. 6500 Tamils in a total population of 8300 become refugees. 2000 houses burnt.
April 15 :	At Akkaripattu 6 Police Commandos killed by Tamil militants. Following this, army detachment rushed to the east. Reports of more attacks on Tamils by thugs actively helped by government forces. Sri Lanka High Commission in New Delhi denies request made for British troops. Sri Lanka Prime Minister Premadasa on a visit to Japan, says in Tokyo that Tamil militants in his country receive arms from external sources. Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone in reply says Japan does not supply arms to terrorists anywhere!
April 16 :	According to a London report figures of Sri Lankan Tamils who have sought political asylum in Britain, West Germany, France, Switzerland and Holland vary between 20,000 and 30,000. The reports adds that they are considered "most unwelcome" by the local populations. In Colombo, two Tamil Ministers Devanayagam and Rajadurai tell President Jayawardene that certain elements were instigating "unlawful elements" among Muslims to attack Tamils. A Colombo report also says Muslims-owned shops at Akkaripattu had been wrecked, and a Hindu temple also attacked. Meanwhile more tropps have been rushed to the east.
April 17 :	Colombo Defence Ministry Spokesmen claims killing of 27 Tamil guerillas in shoot-out with Sri Lankan naval boat in the Palk Strait. It was also claimed that at least 200 Tamil refugees fleeing to India were apprehended in the course of the week.
April 20 :	Anti-Tamil riot continue in the Eastern Province. Incidents reported at Oddamavadi in Kalkudah, Amparai and Valaichennai. Sri Lanka to restore all abandoned air strips for defence, and fighting "terrorism".
April 21 :	Fresh violence reported between Muslims and Tamils in Batticaloa. Minister Lalith Athulathmudali describes as "rubbish" the charge made by Minister Devanayagam that Police Commandos had instigated and armed the Muslims.

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April Diary

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

April 22:	20 Soldiers killed at Puthkudirruppu in Mullaitivu district when Liberation Tigers ambush an army convoy and detonate landmines blowing up a military truck. In Colombo, State radio claims 34 militants and 4 army men were killed, at Oddichuddan when a landmine exploded 8 vehicles of an army convoy returning with captured militants. Government also claimed ambushing a jeep carrying militants at Nelliady in the Jaffna peninsula, acting on a tip-off and killing all ten of them. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran leads a delegation to New Delhi and presents a memorandum on behalf of Sri Lankan Tamils. DMK, Janata, Tamil Nadu Kamaraj Congress of Mr. P. Nedumaran and Namadhu Kazhagam of Mr. S.D. Somasundaram boycott the delegation.
April 23:	In New Delhi, the M.G.R. delegation urges Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to insist that the Sri Lankan army and Commando forces be withdrawn immediately from "Tamil Homelands". Karnataka Chief Minister Ramakrishna Hegde speaking at a public meeting in New Delhi says that while Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had wasted no time in sending a high-power delegation to Iran and Iraq because he was distrubed by what was going on there, he seemed almost "blissfully ignorant" of what was happening in Sri Lanka.
April 24:	More anti-Tamil violence in the eastern province. Number of Tamil refugees mount up to 25,000. MOre army reinforcements rushed there while private reports from Colombo confirm the moving of bus loads of thugs from Colombo to the eastern province.
April 25:	Nikaweratiya Police Station, 60 km outside Colombo, attacked by commandos of the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamileelam (PLOT) and all weapons including revolvers, rifles and sub machine guns captured. (See full report elsewhere in this issue) Official sources while admitting the attack also say that State-owned bank at Nikaweratiya was robbed of Rs. 60 lakhs. A Sinhalese consultant to the Colombo based International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Dr. Frank Jayasinge, reports to President Jayawardene that Police commandos were involved according to eye-witnesses, in the anti-Tamil violence in the Eastern Provinces. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi speaking in parliament says that a special advisory group is to be constituted to help in resolving the problems of Tamils in Sri Lanka. Dr. T.R. Janardanam who arrived at Tiruchi today on a "Pathayathra" from Rameswaram to Madras, accompanied by 50 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees, tells the HINDU that people in all places en route had expressed concern over the centre's apathy to the Sri Lankan problem. In Colombo, Minister of State Dr. Anandatissa de Alwis recommends to the cabinet the suspension of the Tamil newspaper "Virakesari" for publishing a statement of Minister Thondaman without submitting it to the censors. Mr. Thondaman in a statement had alleged that persons in 7 buses and 2 jeeps had gone up to Batticaloa and were responsible for fomenting trouble there.
April 26:	Dravida Kazhagam (DK) leader Veeramani urges in Madras, that government of India must recognize the Sri Lanka Tamils struggle for Eelam as it has recognised the Palestine struggle and the Liberation struggle in the then East Pakistan. (now Bangladesh) Liberation Tigers blow up Sri Lankan army jeep at Kattaiparichan, on the Batticaloa-Mutur road in the eastern province killing 7 soldiers. Victims included Lt. Amarlal, a corporal, and a lance corporal. In the north near Point Pedro, Liberation Tigers explode landmines destroying an armoured personnel carrier, killing 11 soldiers and seriously injuring several others. Following this incident other army personnel run wild and attempt to set fire to shops in Point Pedro. Tigers again open fire and kill one soldier, while the others fled.
April 27:	In Colombo, former Prime Minister Mrs. Bandaranaike questions government claim that it was the attack by Tamil militants on Muslims that sparked the clashes in the eastern province. "WHy should the militants attack the Muslims?" she asked. 6 soldiers die when "a landmine laid by Tamil separatists" destroy their vehicles in north-east Trincomalee, according to official sources in Colombo.

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April Diary

Government Terrorism and Liberation Struggle in Tamil Eelam:

April 27:	Pondichchery Assembly rejects DMK member's resolution seeking creation of a Tamil Eelam in Sri Lanka.
April 28:	Liberation Tigers ambush another army convoy on the Vathiri-Navintil road in Karaveddy killing 8 soldiers on the spot and seriously injuring several others. One army truck completely destroyed by a landmine. Jordan is among outside parties "quitely aiding" Sri Lanka government in the current confrontation with Tamils according to a commentary published in New York. The commentary also mentions China, and Israel as other countries aiding Sri Lanka. 4 soldiers killed when Liberation Tigers attack an army patrol party with hand grenades near Point Pedro.
April 29:	Liberation Tigers ambush yet another army convoy at Ariyalai near Jaffna killing ten soldiers and destroying 2 armoured personnel carriers. In Madras, DMK President Karunanidhi launches agitation to press for Indian recognition of the Sri Lankan Tamils struggle for Tamil Eelam. National Security Council meets in Colombo to assess the country's security situation, particularly on May day. In Colombo, a bomb explodes near the Army Head Quarters shattering window panes of several buildings in the vicinity including the Taj Samudra luxury tourist hotel managed byanIndian hotel chain. No casualties reported.
April 30:	It is announced in London that an International Emergency Committee has been set up to focus attention on decline of Human Rights and rule of law in Sri Lanka and help the victims. Committee members include DAME JUDITH HART, Former British Minister of Overseas Development, Senetor Missen of Australia, Buyong Nasupian, a leading Indonecian Human Rights lawyer and Dr. Abe Rahman Youssoufi, representing the Arab lawyers Union.

Tamil youths held in Lanka church incident

Police have arrested three Tamil youths who wanted to sing hymns in Tamil at a Roman Catholic church when the priest wanted the congregation to sing hymns in Sinhalese.

The incident occured in Chilaw, about 80 kms north-west of Colombo. Police said that when the priest wanted the three men to stop singing in Tamil they walked up to the altar and threatened him.

The Chilaw police said people returning after the service were also abused by these men.

It is for the first time that an incident of the type directly related to the island's ethnic problem, has taken place.

Lanka worker challenges National Defence Fund

An unskilled Sri Lankan railway employee has taken his employee to Supreme Court for deduction from his salary for the National Defence Fund, saying this was "a violation of his fundamental human rights under the island's constitution."

The worker, Premalal Perera, also told a three-member bench Supreme Court here that money deducted from his salary was being used to purchase "arms and military equipment used to maim, injure and kill a certain section of the citizens of the country, including the young, old, females, the clergy and the disabled".

The petitioner said in view of admissions by the National Security Minister that innocent persons have been killed in military operations in the north, and as a Buddhist, he was "of the opinion that these military operations by government was a direct violation of the teachings of Buddhism".

Earlier, when the petition came before Justice M. Abdul Cader, he refused to hear it, but a three-member Supreme Court bench comprising judges Parinda Ranasinghe, H.D. Tambiah and L.R.D. Alwis ruled for case hearing.

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DEAR MOTHER MINE

(ISLAND OF SRILANKA)

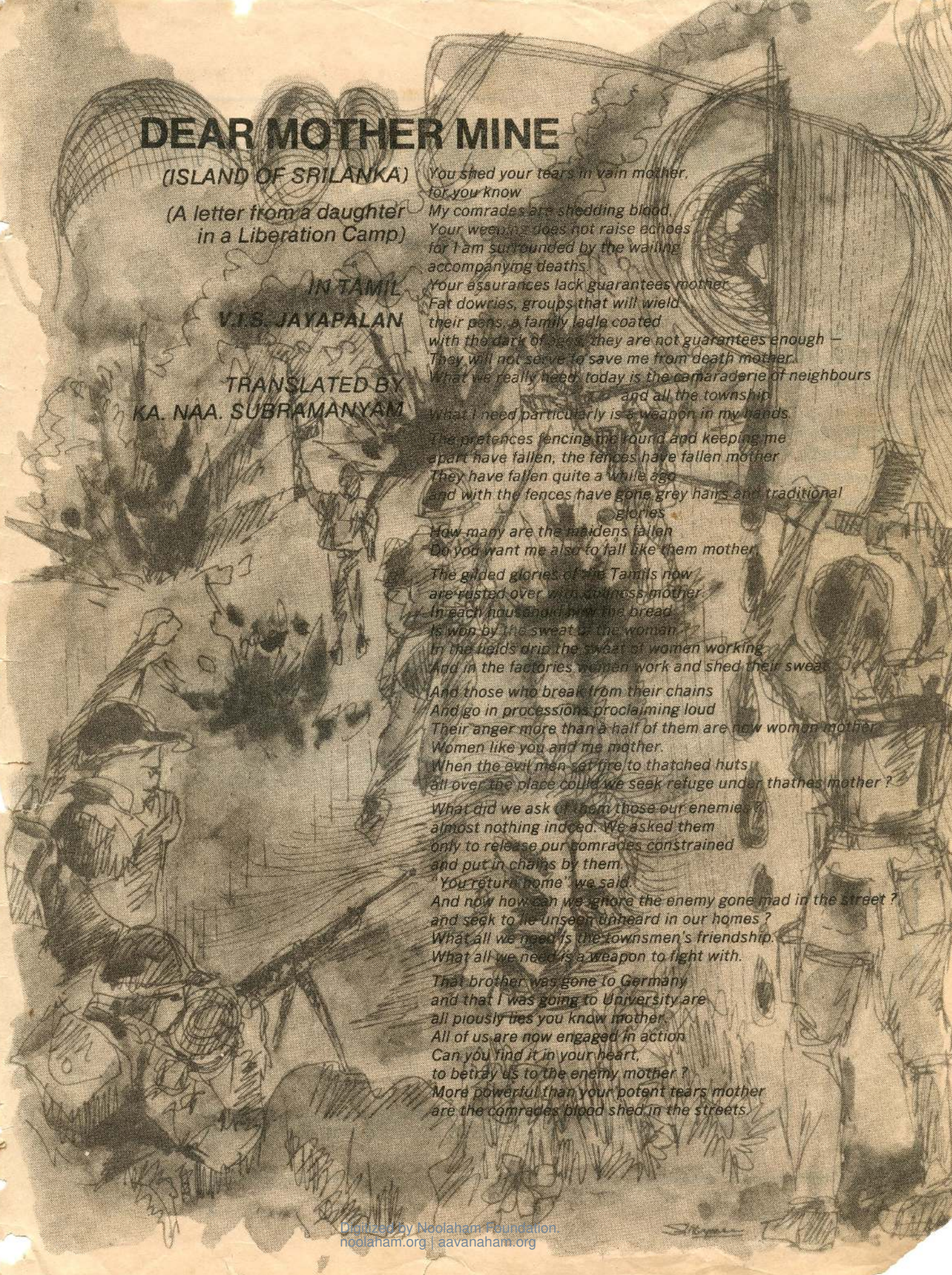
(A letter from a daughter in a Liberation Camp)

IN TAMIL

V.I.S. JAYAPALAN

TRANSLATED BY

KA. NAA. SUBRAMANYAM



You shed your tears in vain mother,
for you know
My comrades are shedding blood,
Your weeping does not raise echoes
for I am surrounded by the wailing
accompanying deaths.
Your assurances lack guarantees mother.
Fat dowries, groups that will wield
their pens, a family ladle coated
with the dark of ages, they are not guarantees enough —
They will not serve to save me from death mother.
What we really need today is the camaraderie of neighbours
and all the township.
What I need particularly is a weapon in my hands.

The pretences fencing the round and keeping me
apart have fallen, the fences have fallen mother
They have fallen quite a while ago
and with the fences have gone grey hairs and traditional
glories.
How many are the maidens fallen
Do you want me also to fall like them mother.

The gilded glories of the Tamils now
are rusted over with dullness mother
In each mouthful of the bread
is won by the sweat of the woman.
In the fields drip the sweat of women working
And in the factories women work and shed their sweat.

And those who break from their chains
And go in processions proclaiming loud
Their anger more than a half of them are now women mother
Women like you and me mother.
When the evil men set fire to thatched huts
all over the place could we seek refuge under thathes mother ?

What did we ask of them those our enemies ?
almost nothing indeed. We asked them
only to release our comrades constrained
and put in chains by them.
"You return home" we said.
And now how can we ignore the enemy gone mad in the street ?
and seek to lie unseen unheard in our homes ?
What all we need is the townsmen's friendship.
What all we need is a weapon to fight with.

That brother was gone to Germany
and that I was going to University are
all piously lies you know mother.
All of us are now engaged in action
Can you find it in your heart,
to betray us to the enemy mother ?
More powerful than your potent tears mother
are the comrades blood shed in the streets.

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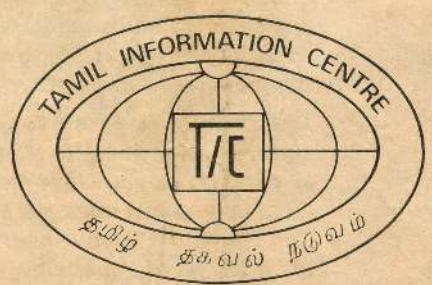
"Without the knowledge that Human Rights exist, people cannot seek their own protection.

Without the knowledge that Human Rights are violated no individual or organisation can seek to provide protection.

Both the promotion and protection of Human Rights therefore require that INFORMATION BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL....."



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